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# THE CRITICAL REVIEW.

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For the Month of July, 1757.

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## ARTICLE I.

*A journal of eight days from Portsmouth to Kingston-upon-Thames, &c. in sixty-four letters, addressed to two ladies of the partie; in two volumes, 8vo. Pr. 10s. Woodfall, and Henderson.*

MANY of our modern writers appear fond of conveying their notions to us under some odd form, with a view, it would seem, of compelling us, at a time when we could least have expected it, into an admiration of their learning and abilities. Who could have conceived, for instance, that a book, entitled, *Memoirs of several ladies of Great Britain*, would contain within it the most profound and most amazing disquisitions into all parts of literature, human and divine? as little should we have expected the discussion of almost every point, with regard to politics, morals, religion, &c. in this work of Mr. H—'s; yet this turns out to be the case: the productions of nature or of art, which our author met with in his progress, and which, one might naturally have imagin'd, would engage his principal attention, are handled by him in the slightest and most superficial manner: while he is perpetually upon the watch for an opportunity to introduce to us his reflections, and to regulate our sentiments with regard to some circumstance of morality or religion. In the perusal of his first volume especially, so oddly and so awkwardly patched up with scraps of thread-bare morality, we could not but recollect the lines in which monsieur Jaques in Shakespear, gives us the character of the motley gentleman whom he met with in the forest of Arden—

— in his brain

- Which is as dry, as the remainder bisket
- After a voyage, he had strange places cramm'd
- With observation, the which he vents
- In mangled form.

Of what kind the observations were which this gentleman was accustomed to vent, monsieur Jaques had told us a little before——

- He drew (*says he*) a dial from his poak
- And looking on it with lack-lustre eye,
- Says very wisely, it is ten a-clock;
- Thus may we see, quoth he, how the world wags;
- 'Tis but an hour ago, since it was nine,
- And, after one hour more, 'twill be eleven;
- And so from hour to hour we ripe and ripe,
- And then from hour to hour we rot and rot,' &c.

Whether these notable observations bear any resemblance to Mr. H——'s, the reader will quickly discover from perusing a few pages of this *eight days journal*. 'Truth (*says Mr. H——*) is the object of my pursuit, to this ought all our homage to be paid; O sacred truth, 'tis thy cause, which I espouse, &c.'— A very commendable resolution, no doubt: but he should have consider'd, that there are some truths which every mortal is as well acquainted with as himself, and which it is therefore quite unnecessary to obtrude upon the public: such are the trite and vulgar topics of morality, which, however just, are yet extremely insipid, when they come recommended by no elegance of stile, enforc'd by no strength of argument, and embellish'd by no graces of the imagination. If this be the case, we apprehend that little entertainment or instruction can be gathered from that extravagant profusion of reflections, with which Mr. H——'s work abounds, and which are in truth as hackney'd and as beaten as the road from Portsmouth to Kingston-upon-Thames. Neither is Mr. H—— at all delicate, with regard to the manner of introducing these reflections of his: any thing serves him as a handle.— While the horses are watering in a little village, Mr. H—— strolls into the church-yard, and this produces a chapter upon tomb-stones.— He meets a few soldiers, and here is an opportunity, which could not escape him, of expatiating upon war.— The landlady's behaviour at Ambresbury gives rise to a letter upon resentment, &c.— At Salisbury, Mr. H—— tells us, he had the happiness of being introduced to the amiable Mrs. D——, the ingenious and agreeable Mrs. E——, and her sister Miss S——, the polite sensible Mrs. G——, the pretty musician her daughter, and the little cherubim her son: 'Shall you forget (*says Mr. H——*) what was said of this sweet boy of six years old? as he sat pensive one day, being asked what he thought of; I am thinking, says he, of the great God of heaven, and that I must die— 'Tis amazing how reason ripens in some children, how much depends upon parents, and how deep the belief of a God is implanted in us. I was present (continues Mr. H——) the other day at a scene not the less interesting for being in common and familiar life: a very good woman, as many good women delight to trifle, was telling a story, not properly introduced, to her son, a child of five years of age, of a boy who

had



‘ had been thrown into a pond, &c. my little friend listen’d with  
‘ great attention, and at length with a mixture of indignation and  
‘ sorrow, burst into tears, and spoke to this effect, and almost in  
‘ these words: ‘ Why do you tell me such stories? would nobody  
‘ take him out? I would have taken him out, and knock’d those  
‘ down with a giant’s club who should have opposed me.’—Here  
‘ nature spoke aloud; I could not help taking the boy in my arms,  
‘ to commend his good sense, as well as his generosity, &c.’—  
This may serve as a specimen of our author’s manner of mora-  
lizing—In the mean time we cannot help wondering how Mr.  
H—, who appears not upon the whole to be destitute of under-  
standing, could think of retailing out to us such silly, nauseous  
trifles as these, which can have an attraction only for grandmothers  
and nurses. Having finished these stories, with his reflections upon  
them, he takes us to the cathedral; and here he could not avoid  
entertaining us with his opinion of church music, of the theatre,  
and of divine poetry: after this we have his sentiments upon death,  
and temperance, and lap-dogs, and matrimony, with a great variety  
of other subjects; and in this manner he conducts us to Stock-  
bridge: but, before he enters the king’s-head inn there, he thinks  
it expedient to treat us with a rhapsody.— ‘ It was in this morn-  
‘ ing’s journey (*says he*) that my imagination took a flight above  
‘ the earth; the brightness of the azure sky receiv’d an uncommon  
‘ beauty from the clouds which flew on high clothed in milky  
‘ white, and presented to the eye of my fancy the appearance of  
‘ an angel. Methought I saw one of these winged messengers of  
‘ heaven directing his course through the vast expanse towards the  
‘ local seat of that ineffable glory which surrounds the more im-  
‘ mediate presence of the God invisible to mortal eyes. I saw the  
‘ spirit approach, as near as angels can approach the throne of  
‘ that one supreme, in the contemplation of whose perfections all  
‘ the powers of my soul were absorb’d.

‘ Lo! the great ruler of the world from high

‘ Look’d smiling down with a propitious eye.

‘ With the eye of contemplation I saw the Almighty looking down  
‘ with parental tenderness on all the children of men, observing  
‘ all their words and actions, &c.— And now, madam, says Mr.  
‘ H— after finishing his vision, what use will you make of this  
‘ rhapsody? if I have the happiness to reach these regions of im-  
‘ mortality, where my thoughts have been wandering, I shall be  
‘ glad to meet you there and all my friends: happy, if all man-  
‘ kind could meet.’— At Stockbridge races a coach-wheel had  
almost overturned the chaise of Mrs. D—: a more unfortunate  
accident could not possibly have happened: for it sets Mr. H—  
into such a rage of reflection, that he pursues it through his whole  
fourth part, that is from pag. 209 to 316, without the least stop or  
intermission: his contemplations too have at present acquired a  
very gloomy cast; most of them, indeed, are of the religious kind;

on the vanity of life; the belief of a God; the immortality of the soul; reading and prayer; the happiness of being a christian, &c. 'Every morn' you rise (*says Mr. H——*) speak to your own heart, 'and say, I am a christian: every night repeat the same: in every 'conflict of your heart summon up your resolution, and say, with 'Zara in the tragedy, yes, I am a christian: rejoice that you was 'born a christian, and that you live where you may boast of this 'glorious appellation, &c.'—— After a great deal more of this good advice Mr. H—— at last brings us to Winchester, and by this time it was surely not unreasonable to hope for a short truce with his speculations: but no such matter; after a slight view of the town and cathedral, his old dæmon of reflection lays hold of him, and hurries him into the school; where we find him dictating about the cleanliness of apartments, the manner of cloathing for boys, &c. and declaiming against pudding.—— Having settled the discipline of the school, Mr. H—— pursues his road with great expedition to Epsom; and so, after a few remarks upon the advantages of female conversation, this eight days journal concludes.— 'Life itself (*says he*) in his last letter to Mrs. D——, has an end: 'we must rise from a banquet with gratitude for the pleasure we 'have received, not repine that we cannot always be feasting: 'and tho' I am now reduced to a level with common mortals to 'find my way about the world in the best manner I can, it shall 'be always consistent with my profession that I am, &c.'—— We are now arrived to Mr. H——'s second volume, which promises us nothing more than an essay upon tea; far from confining himself however to this entirely, he takes occasion, according to his custom, to enlighten us at every turn with regard to many other particulars; such as the pernicious consequences of gin; the advantages of a militia; the means of raising additional taxes, &c. and upon these points, tho' there is nothing very striking or extraordinary, yet he has many rational and just observations; these, indeed, are subjects which seem much better suited to our author's talents, than the discussion of matters of morality, which require a certain refinement and delicacy of thinking, by no means to be found in the possession of Mr. H——. He begins with giving us some information concerning the growth of tea, the manner of drinking it among the Chinese, its introduction into England, &c. upon these topics the reader will find that Mr. H—— is capable of affording him sufficient satisfaction. These informations, however, are only introductory to his grand concern, which is no less than the utter extirpation of tea from the island of Great Britain: this concern, he assures us, has often disturbed his dreams: he has long considered tea, not only as a prejudicial article of commerce, but also of a most pernicious tendency with regard to domestic industry and labour, and very injurious to health.—— 'How many sweet creatures of your sex (*says he*, addressing himself to Mrs. D——, for 'he still keeps up his correspondence with the ladies) languish  
' with



‘ with a weak digestion, low spirits, lassitudes, melancholy, and  
‘ twenty disorders, which, in spite of the faculty, have yet no names,  
‘ except the general one of nervous complaints? let them change  
‘ their diet, and, among other articles, leave off drinking tea, it is  
‘ more than probable the greatest part of them will be restored to  
‘ health——Tho’ habit reconciles us to the use of tea, as it does  
‘ the Turks to opium, may we not with great propriety ask the  
‘ following questions? is it not disturbing the operations of na-  
‘ ture to drink, when neither heat nor thirst provokes? do we  
‘ not often sip tea when we have already drank too great a quan-  
‘ tity of water, and other diluting liquors? will not cold liquids  
‘ sometimes relieve nature better than hot? are not physicians ge-  
‘ nerally agreed, that we have many choice and medicinal herbs of  
‘ our own, better than tea?”—— After some other questions of  
‘ less importance, Mr. H—— proceeds: ‘ One might multiply  
‘ these questions, and their answers might at one view set the mat-  
‘ ter in its true light, if we had wit and honesty to consult proper  
‘ counsellors, and to follow their advice. Men seem to have lost  
‘ their stature and comeliness, and women their beauty: I am not  
‘ young, but methinks there is not quite so much beauty in the  
‘ land as there was; your very chambermaids have lost their bloom,  
‘ I suppose by sipping tea.— I suppose that Adam and Eve drank  
‘ pure element with all its vivifying qualities, or if they did really  
‘ use the infusion of any delicious herbs, with which Eden abound-  
‘ ed, I dare say tea was not selected for this purpose: for after all  
‘ that can be said of this leaf, the inferior kinds are extremely nau-  
‘ seous, even to persons who drink tea, if they are used to the bet-  
‘ ter sorts only.— I have mentioned the vivifying qualities of  
‘ water; this is not a familiar form, but it leads me to observe  
‘ that, altho’ we are extremely attentive to the qualities of the wa-  
‘ ter, we drink medicinally, yet in common use, however choice  
‘ they may be, tea-drinkers must prepare it for the infusion of the  
‘ delicious drug in question by boiling it—— and can any reason-  
‘ able person doubt, that this flatulent liquor shortens the lives of  
‘ great numbers of people? were we to reckon, that only one in a  
‘ thousand dies annually of this slow poison, out of two millions  
‘ of tea-drinkers, the state would suffer the heavy loss of two thou-  
‘ sand subjects, &c.”—— Among other observations, Mr. H——  
‘ takes notice, that the women in the United Provinces, who sip tea  
‘ from morning to night, are remarkable for their bad teeth: but  
‘ we never heard that the teeth of our English ladies were remark-  
‘ ably bad; yet Mr. H—— allows, that they are very near as great  
‘ tea-drinkers as the Dutch: his argument therefore seems to prove  
‘ too much; and indeed the scorbutic disorders to which the Holland-  
‘ ers are subject, from the very nature of their soil and climate, and of  
‘ their diet in general, will account with much greater probability for  
‘ this effect, than that immoderate use of tea, to which Mr. H——  
‘ imputes it.— Mr. H——, after this gives us what he apprehends

to be a just calculation of the expence of tea : he supposes that we consume in Great Britain five millions of pounds weight of tea annually, of which he reckons two millions to be run in upon us : the price at a medium of what is legally imported and what is run, he fixes at five shillings ; this amounts to 1,250,000 *l.*— With regard to sugar, he supposes 25.000 hogheads to be expended in tea : these at 12 hundred weight each make 33,600,000 pounds weight : allowing a quarter part of what is lost in refining part of this quantity it is reduced to 25,200,000 pounds, of which three fourths being computed at four-pence, and one fourth at eight-pence, it makes 525,300 *l.*— ‘ I will suppose (*says he*) only one million of servants, &c. who lose time in drinking tea : I will calculate only 280 days in the year, and one hour in twelve lost in such days : I will set their labour so low as six-pence a day : then tea costs the nation in this instance only, the sum of 583,333 *l.*— The expence of tea-equipages in the whole nation he computes at 83,333 *l.* add to this the expence arising from tea-kettles, coals, fires made at some seasons of the year merely on account of tea, which he fixes at 249,999 *l.* and the whole annual expence of tea to this nation will amount to 2,691,665 *l.*— With regard to the export of our gold and silver on account of tea,— ‘ I apprehend (*says Mr. H—*) if the question was fairly answer’d it would be acknowledged that near the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds in silver is really laid out for tea bought at China : if to this we add two millions of pounds weight of tea paid for at only twenty-pence a pound to France, Sweden, Holland, Denmark, and Prussia, it amounts to 166,666 *l.* exclusive of what Ireland and America take off : all this we must reckon as paid for either in gold or silver : thus we may calculate that our whole export for this pernicious article is near 300,000 *l.*— ‘ I do not pretend (*says he*) to calculate exactly, either the quantity of tea which is run in upon us, or the whole amount of the gold and silver of which we are drained : I believe upon the whole, I am under the mark ; some who know the truth better may be interested to conceal it ; and others who consider it only as a venial evil, may flatter this national vice : but if you, madam, really mean to give any proof of love for your country, you must not indulge yourself any longer in it.’— After all this we cannot, for our parts, perceive in ourselves that indignation against tea, which Mr. H— seems so industrious to excite : his reasonings, especially with regard to its effect upon the constitution, are by much too general and indeterminate : there is scarce a circumstance, of luxury at least, in which one who was disposed to scrutinize it with the zeal and even acrimony which Mr. H— has employed in the present case, might not discover many seeming inconveniences, and argue upon it with great plausibility : if we allow of any thing beyond the common necessities of life, tea perhaps may be as inoffensive an amusement as any other, and may still for  
aught



ought we can see, keep possession of the ladies tables; at least attempting to deprive them of it might prove a dangerous experiment: who knows what the *sweet creatures* in the fury of their invention would fall upon to supply its place, which might strike us with melancholy apprehensions indeed!——

Mr. H——, however, having in his own imagination obtained a complete victory over tea, proceeds in the pride of conquest to attack butter: but, whether he found butter so well provided with friends, that he durst not at present venture upon a regular assault, or, whether he was softened by some remains of tenderness for it in his own breast, 'tis certain his ardour here soon cools; after just flourishing his weapon, and hinting what he could do if he was provok'd, he suddenly draws off his forces, and all is peace on this quarter.—— But when Mr. H—— has thus robbed us of our tea, and even thrown out some dangerous insinuations against butter; what, it may be said, does he propose to substitute in its room? in this case he has taken care not to be unprovided with an expedient.—— ‘If you make it a condition of your reforming this abuse (*says he*) I will study botany, or turn gardener, and if I do not discover herbs in our own country, more healthy in quality, more delicious to an undebauched taste, than the choicest tea, let me suffer as an impostor; brand my name to all posterity, as an enemy to my country.’—This, it must be own'd, is fair; but we are under some slight apprehensions, lest Mr. H——, beneath the covert of these fair words, and this solemn engagement, should conceal a design of bringing us over to his own breakfast; which, it seems, is ground-ivy mixt with stick-liquorice, and which he finds to be a very agreeable and wholesome beverage. Mr. H——, as he draws towards a conclusion, falls deep again into his old moralizing strain.—— ‘Before I finish my letter (*says he*) methinks the world is vanishing from my sight! my much-honour'd, much-lov'd friend is dead! the pious, intrepid, lively, intelligent Captain Hamilton is no more!—Our young friend, the ingenious and melodious Miss Griesdale, is also gone! behold the good, the brave, the innocent cut off before their time! the life of man truly passes away, like a shadow, &c.’—And thus we take our leave of Mr. H——, who, tho' we cannot in conscience recommend him as an elegant or masterly writer, appears however to be a man of humanity and worth; possessed too of some degree of knowledge, but discredited in great measure by a strong tincture of absurdity, which prevails throughout his performance, and by a total want of that distinguishing taste which might enable him to become acquainted with the nature of his own talents, and to select such materials as might be proper for the inspection of the publick.

*Art. II. A dissertation on the religious knowledge of the antient Jews and Patriarchs. 4to. Pr. 1 s. 6 d. Payne.*

THE author of this dissertation engages in defence of the commonly received hypothesis, that the doctrine of a future state was the object of general belief to the Jews. His performance is wrote with modesty and plainness; and though he supports his cause with less spirit and vivacity than the examiner into the bishop of London's sermons, who has espoused the opposite opinion, yet he is not deficient in point of argument. That this doctrine was private and personal, and not urged upon the Jews as a sanction of their ritual, is freely acknowledged by him; and this point indeed will scarce admit of a dispute: but he thinks he can make it evident, from the propriety of the thing itself, and from plain texts of scripture, that this belief was prevalent among the body of the people, and was the sanction of the moral law to individuals. 'However it may appear to some, (says he) to me, I acknowledge, it appears utterly incredible, that the gracious parent of mankind should have left our race for almost four thousand years, without the hope or knowledge of futurity, if he had designed them for it; and the more apprehensive we are of the importance and happy efficacy of this doctrine in religion, the less should we expect to find his peculiar favourites unacquainted with it. That equal providence, with which the Israelites are generally and justly supposed to be attended, will by no means be a sufficient solution of the difficulty; as that, far from extending to individuals, so as to exempt every good man from suffering, would frequently expose the most virtuous to the severest trials in times of general apostasy, and render them far more miserable in those public calamities, with which their country was visited for its abominations, than we could ever suppose they would have been, if left destitute of the reviving hope of a better life.'—Our author after this proceeds to establish his point by those passages from the Old and New Testament, which have commonly been produced for this purpose: few of those are so precise and determinate in his favour, as to exclude all prospect of being explained away by the skill of an adversary. He must be a raw disputant indeed, who would suffer two or three texts like these to frighten him out of a favourite hypothesis. His third chapter is employed in stating and examining the objections brought against the opinion he maintains. It has been urged, that the doctrine of a future state was evidently unfit for that antient people; because it would have taught them that their religion was only a meager element, or shadowy type, of a more perfect and excellent institution; and that between the letter of the law, and the spirit of the gospel, there was an irreconcilable difference. All this, attended with the knowledge that the Gentiles were



were to be admitted by a new and better covenant into the number of God's people, on the same footing with themselves, without going thro' the purgatory of the law, would have so inflamed their prejudices against it, as to make their immediate subjection to it a thing impossible. 'A part of this objection (says our author) 'seems to say in other words, that the discovery of this doctrine 'in the Jewish system would have prejudiced them against it, because it had not discovered it at all. It is not easy to imagine 'how they could possibly be prejudiced against their religion as a 'mere shadowy type of a more perfect institution, if they were entirely unacquainted with that part of the divine plan which related to future revelations. If theirs discovered it at all, it 'would no longer appear to them a meager element irreconcilable with the gospel. And to suppose their prejudices thus inflamed against their law, merely because they expected that the 'gracious parent of the universe would some time or other extend 'his plan, and reveal the great doctrines of life more clearly to 'the world, is only to suppose them necessarily incapable of discerning the wisdom, and submitting to the authority of their divine legislator and sovereign; ungrateful for those sacred privileges 'and kind interpositions of providence, connected with a conformity to their law, by which they were distinguished from all 'the nations of the world as God's peculiar favourites; and at the 'same time bloated with a malignant envy at the prospect of others 'being somewhat wiser and happier than themselves.—But the 'Jewish, we are told, could not have been an imperfect or preparatory dispensation, if we suppose it to have contained the discoveries of a future state, as the Jews would then have enjoyed advantages equal, if not superior, to Christians, and in fact have 'been under the law and the gospel at the same time.—This objection seems merely to have been urged against supposing the 'doctrine of the immortality the grand sanction of their law, and 'promised to them in it as clearly as well as upon the same terms 'in the Old Testament, as it is to us in the New: for to say that 'they must have been under a perfect, rather than a preparatory dispensation, if they knew ~~any thing at all of a future state~~, is 'like saying that a schoolboy must be master of a language, as soon 'as he has learn'd his grammar; and that the first principles of a science are not the proper introductions, and preparative to a more 'accurate and extensive acquaintance with it.—An ingenious writer seems to lay a considerable stress upon those words in Matthew, where the people are represented as sitting in darkness, and 'in the region of the shadow of death; and our Saviour is particularly welcomed as the day-spring from on high appearing to give 'them light, and to guide their feet into the way of life. These 'expressions, it has been said, evidently imply a total absence and 'want of light, or a perfect and entire ignorance of the doctrine 'by which the people thus circumstanced were to be enlightened; 'because

‘ because it is impossible to express the most absolute and entire  
 ‘ ignorance in more significant and emphatic terms. We allow  
 ‘ the expressions to be strongly figurative, but apprehend that  
 ‘ neither of them, when attentively examined, will answer the  
 ‘ purpose for which they are produced, viz. to prove that the Jews  
 ‘ were totally ignorant of a future state. The words in St. Mat-  
 ‘ thew’s gospel evidently refer to the former state of the Gentiles,  
 ‘ and the great advantages they should receive from our Re-  
 ‘ deemer’s appearing. In St. Luke’s gospel, Zacharias says, the  
 ‘ day-spring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them (*not*  
 ‘ *us*) that sit in darkness, i. e. the Gentiles, and to guide our feet  
 ‘ into the way of peace; who, tho’ speculatively acquainted with  
 ‘ the doctrine of life, were practically wandering from it, and  
 ‘ chusing the paths of destruction, &c.’—In this manner our au-  
 ‘ thor replies to the objections brought against the hypothesis  
 which he has espoused. Without enquiring how just his rea-  
 sonings are with regard to every particular, we cannot help  
 thinking, that he is in great measure right as to his general posi-  
 tion. Tho’ we should not have recourse with this writer to im-  
 mediate revelation, or tradition, or to prophecies in a book of  
 Enoch, now lost, for the communication of the doctrine of a fu-  
 ture existence, yet that a universal blindness and unbelief with re-  
 spect to it should ever have prevailed among the Jews, seems ut-  
 terly inconceivable; unless we suppose them to have been more  
 stupid than their worst adversaries have represented them, or  
 that the progress of their minds was disturbed and controlled by a  
 supernatural operation. The same eager curiosity, the same an-  
 xious concern for futurity, which engaged all other nations into  
 enquiries and interesting speculations concerning their existence in  
 another state, would have the same effect, no doubt, upon *this*;  
 and thus, without supposing their legislator to have determined  
 any thing upon the point, a general belief of the doctrine would  
 be established, as being agreeable to the wishes, and bearing a  
 certain conformity with the natural frame and tendency of the hu-  
 man mind.

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ART. III. *The history of the province of New York, from the first disco-*  
*very to the year 1732. By William Smith, A. M. 4to. Pr. 6 s. sewed.*  
 Wilcox.

‘ **H**AVING been formerly concerned (says our author) accord-  
 ‘ ing to an appointment by act of assembly, in a review  
 ‘ and digest of our provincial laws, it was the duty of myself, and  
 ‘ my partner in that service, to peruse the minutes of the council,  
 ‘ and the journals of the general assembly, from the glorious re-  
 ‘ volution at the accession of King William, to the year 1751;  
 ‘ and as an acquaintance with our public transactions was a branch  
 ‘ of instruction, of which a student for the profession of the law  
 ‘ ought



ought not to be ignorant, I have since re-examined those entries, beginning with the first minutes of council, and read over many of the records in the secretary's office: from these authentic materials the following pages were in a great measure compiled.— The ensuing narrative, he tells us, (for it deserves not the name of history, tho' for brevity's sake I have given it that title) presents us only a regular thread of simple facts; and even those unembellished with reflexions, because they themselves suggest the proper remarks, and most readers will doubtless be best pleased with their own. No reins have been given to a wanton imagination, for the invention of plausible tales, supported only by light probabilities; but chusing rather to be honest and dull, than agreeable and false, the true import of my vouchers hath been strictly adhered to and regarded. With regard to its stile, the critics in that branch of literature are at full liberty to condemn at their pleasure. Perspicuity is all I have endeavoured to maintain; nor am I at leisure to study any higher attainments in language.' This seems to be in general a pretty just character of our author's performance: his narrative appears to be an accurate and faithful detail of affairs relating to this province, and, tho' a little tedious sometimes, deserves not however to be termed dull; neither is his stile or manner, as far as we can perceive, liable to much exception. We shall extract, for the entertainment of the reader, some part of what he says with regard to the history and character of the Five Nations. 'No people in the world perhaps have higher notions than these Indians of military glory: all the surrounding nations have felt the effects of their prowess; and many not only became their tributaries, but were so subjugated to their power, that, without their consent, they durst not commence either peace or war. Tho' a regular police, for the preservation of harmony within, and the defence of the state against invasions from without, is not to be expected from the people of whom I am now writing, yet perhaps they have paid more attention to it than is generally allowed. Their government is suited to their condition. A people whose riches consist not so much in abundance, as in a freedom from want, who are circumscribed by no boundaries, who live by hunting, and not by agriculture, must always be free, and therefore subject to no other authority than such as consists with the liberty necessarily arising from their circumstances. All their affairs, whether respecting peace or war, are under their sachems or chief men. Great exploits and public virtue procure the esteem of a people, and qualify a man to advise in council, and execute the plan concerted for the advantage of his country; thus whoever appears to the Indians in this advantageous light, commences a sachem without any other ceremony. As there is no other way of arriving at this dignity, so it ceases, unless an uniform zeal and activity for the common good is uninterruptedly

' interruptedly continued. Some have thought it hereditary, but  
 ' that is a mistake. The son is indeed respected for his father's  
 ' services, but without personal merit he can never share in the  
 ' government; which, were it otherwise, must sink into perfect  
 ' disgrace. The children of such as are distinguished for their pa-  
 ' triotism, moved by the consideration of their birth, and the per-  
 ' petual incitements to virtue constantly inculcated into them, imi-  
 ' tate their fathers exploits, and thus attain to the same honours  
 ' and influence; which accounts for the opinion that the title and  
 ' power of sachem is hereditary. Each of these republics has its  
 ' own particular chiefs, who hear and determine all complaints  
 ' in council; and tho' they have no officers for the execution of  
 ' justice, yet their decrees are always obeyed, from the general re-  
 ' proach that would follow a contempt of their advice. The  
 ' manners of these savages are as simple as their government.  
 ' Their houses are a few crotched stakes thrust into the ground,  
 ' and overlaid with bark. A fire is kindled in the middle, and  
 ' an aperture left at the top for the conveyance of the smoke.  
 ' Whenever a considerable number of these huts is collected,  
 ' they have a castle, as it is called, consisting of a square without  
 ' bastions, surrounded with pallisadoes. They have no other  
 ' fortification; and this is only designed as an asylum for their  
 ' old men, their wives, and children, while the rest are gone out  
 ' to war. They live almost entirely without care. While the  
 ' women or squaws cultivate a little spot of ground for corn, the  
 ' men employ themselves in hunting. Tho' the Indians are ca-  
 ' pable of sustaining great hardships, yet they cannot endure much  
 ' labour, being rather fleet than strong. Their men are taller  
 ' than the Europeans, rarely corpulent, always beardless, straight-  
 ' limb'd, of a tawny complexion, and black uncurled hair. Every  
 ' man has his own wife, whom he takes and leaves at pleasure; a  
 ' plurality however is by no means admitted among them.—The  
 ' Five Nations being devoted to war, every art is contrived to dif-  
 ' fuse a military spirit thro' the whole body of their people. The  
 ' ceremonies attending the return of a party seem calculated in  
 ' particular for that purpose. The day before they enter the vil-  
 ' lage, two heralds advance, and at a small distance set up a yell,  
 ' which by its modulation intimates either good or bad news: if  
 ' the former, the village is alarmed, and an entertainment provi-  
 ' ded for the conquerors, who in the mean time approach in  
 ' fight. One of them bears the scalps stretched over a bow, and  
 ' elevated upon a long pole. The boldest man in the town comes  
 ' out, and receives it, and instantly flies to the hut where the rest  
 ' are collected. If he is overtaken, he is beaten unmercifully;  
 ' but if he outruns the pursuer, he participates in the honour of  
 ' the victors, who at their first entrance receive no compliments,  
 ' nor speak a single word till the end of the feast. Their parents,  
 ' wives, and children, then are admitted, and treat them with the  
 ' profoundest



profoundest respect. After these salutations, one of the conquerors is appointed to relate the whole adventure, to which the rest attentively listen, without asking a question, and the whole concludes with a savage dance. — The art of public speaking is in high esteem among the Indians, and much studied. They are extremely fond of method, and displeased with an irregular harangue, because it is difficult to be remembered. When they answer, they repeat the whole, reducing it into strict order. Their speeches are short, and the sense conveyed in strong metaphors. In conversation they are sprightly, but solemn and serious in their messages relating to public affairs. Their speakers deliver themselves with surprising force and great propriety of gesture. The fierceness of their countenance, the flowing blanket, elevated tone, naked arm, and erect stature, with a half circle of auditors seated on the ground, and in the open air, cannot but impress upon the mind a lively idea of the ancient orators of Greece and Rome. — With respect to religion, the Indians may be said to be under the thickest gloom of ignorance. If they have any, which is much to be questioned, those who affirm it will find it difficult to tell us wherein it consists. They have neither priest nor temple, sacrifice nor altar. Some traces indeed appear of the original law written upon their hearts; but they have no system of doctrines, nor any rites and modes of public worship. They are sunk unspeakably below the polite pagans of antiquity. Some confused notions indeed of beings superior to themselves they have, but of the Deity and his natural and moral perfections no proper or tolerable conceptions; and of his general and particular providence they know nothing. Some of them, it is said, are of opinion, that there are two distinct powerful beings, one able to help, the other to do them harm. The latter they venerate most; and some alledge that they address him by a kind of prayer. The Indians sometimes assemble in large numbers, and retire far into the wilderness, where they eat and drink in a profuse manner. These conventions are called *kenticoy*s. Some esteem them to be debauched revels or bacchanalia; but those who have privately followed them into these recesses, give such accounts of their conduct as naturally lead one to imagine that they pay a joint homage and supplication to some invisible being. Here is a short specimen of Indian eloquence, which our author has given us from a speech, in which they ratify their friendship with the English colonies. We promise to preserve the chain inviolably, and wish that the sun may always shine in peace over all our heads that are comprehended in this chain. We give two belts, one for the sun, and the other for his beams. We make fast the roots of the tree of peace and tranquillity which is planted in this place. Its roots extend as far as the utmost of your colonies. If the French should come to shake this tree, we would feel it by the motion

' motion of its roots, which extend into our country : but we  
 ' trust it will not be in the governor of Canada's power to shake  
 ' this tree, which has been so firmly and so long planted with us.'  
 Mr. Smith having regularly carried down his detail to the com-  
 mencement of colonel's Cosby's administration in 1732, concludes  
 his narration. ' The history of our public transactions (says he)  
 ' from this period to the present time, is full of important and  
 ' entertaining events, which I leave others to relate. A very near  
 ' relation to the author had so great a concern in the public con-  
 ' troversies with colonel Cosby, that the history of these times  
 ' will be better received from a more disinterested pen.— The  
 author has subjoined a geographical description of the country,  
 together with some account of the inhabitants, their trade, reli-  
 gious state, laws, and courts.

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ART. IV. *Remarks on Dr. Warburton's account of the sentiments of the  
 early Jews concerning the soul. Occasioned by some passages in a  
 book intitled An examination of the Bishop of London's sermons,  
 &c. 8vo. Pr. 1s. Cooper.*

A Sort of contention seems to have arisen among some of our  
 late writers, who should be most extravagant in his ap-  
 plauses, and profuse of his incense to Dr. Warburton. Among  
 these the ingenious author of the *Examination into the bishop of  
 London's sermons* has not been the least forward in his devotions.  
 The purpose of the little pamphlet before us is to put some stop,  
 if possible, to the progress of this spreading idolatry; and to shew  
 the zealous votaries, that this hero of theirs, whom they have ele-  
 vated to a kind of divinity, is not however without some little taint  
 of human infirmity. This performance is executed with a tole-  
 rable degree of sprightliness and good sense. ' Whatever success  
 ' (says this remarker) the ingenious author of the *Free and candid  
 examination, &c.* may be supposed to have had in detecting and  
 ' confuting the bishop of London's errors, and those of other  
 ' learned men, who come in for their share of reprehension in his  
 ' book, there is one circumstance in his manner, which, with  
 ' every unprejudiced reader, must detract from his pretensions to  
 ' candour. What I mean is an insinuation often repeated, that  
 ' the principles and doctrines he undertakes to overthrow, are  
 ' advanced by their respective authors in pure contradiction to Dr.  
 ' Warburton. Thus my lord of London attacks the system of the  
 ' *divine legation*, Dr. Jortin affects to differ from Dr. W. Dr. Lowth  
 ' is suspected to *squint* at him, &c. What is it this examiner and  
 ' his fellow-labourers would be at? Must no man make use of  
 ' his eyes or his intellects for fear of squinting at or differing from  
 ' Dr. W.? Is every man to keep his sentiments to himself till he  
 ' is sure of being in perfect accord with Dr. W.? These are hard  
 ' conditions,



conditions, and in some respects as hard upon the public in general, as the province of authorship in particular: but what remedy? These gentlemen will dictate, and we must submit. However, next to the blessing of being quite free from a despotic government, is the comfort of knowing the utmost of its demands; and with these indeed have our task-masters graciously condescended to make us acquainted. Thus then stands the decree, translated out of Attic irony into plain English, prescribing our demeanor towards this sovereign in the republic of letters, as we find it promulged, and bearing date at the palace of Lincoln's-Inn, Nov. 25. 1755. 1. You must not write on the same subject that he does. 2. You must not write against him. 3. You must not glance at his arguments, even without naming him, or so much as referring to him. 4. You must not oppose his principles, tho' you let his arguments quite alone. 5. If you find his principles ever so faulty, you must not presume to furnish him with better of your own, even tho' you approve, and are desirous to support his conclusions. 6. You must not pretend to help forward any of his arguments that happen to fall lame, and may seem to require your needful support. 7. When you design him a compliment, you must express it in full form, and with all the circumstances of panegyrical approbation, without impertinently qualifying your civilities by assigning a reason why you think he deserves them, as this might possibly be taken for an hint that you knew something of the matter he is writing about as well as himself. 8. You must never call any of his discoveries by the name of conjectures, tho' you allow them their full proportion of elegance, learning, &c. for you ought to know that this capital genius never proposed any thing to the public (tho' ever so new and uncommon) with diffidence in his life. On these terms you may live and write what you will, or what you can, at your ease,

‘Bask in the sunshine of the sovereign's smiles,  
and enjoy his friendship in all its delicacy.’— The reader need not be told that the preceding passage alludes to a certain *Essay on the delicacy of friendship*, published some time since by way of ironical reproof to Dr. Jortin, who had offended, it seems, with regard to all the above-mentioned articles in some of his dissertations: upon the doctor's discovering these symptoms of disaffection, this *essay* was immediately issued forth with a view of pointing out to him the malignity of his transgressions, and recalling him if possible, to his duty and allegiance.— We shall now proceed to give the reader some idea of this author's manner of arguing.— Dr. Warburton had advanced it as his opinion, that the real sentiments of the early Jews concerning the soul were the same with those of the rest of mankind who have thought upon the matter, that it survived the body; but that having, from Moses's silence and establishment of another sanction, no expectation of future rewards  
and

and punishments, they simply concluded that it returned to God who gave it. As to interesting speculations concerning its state of survivorship, he thinks it plain they had not any. 'The sentiments of the early Jews concerning the soul, (*says our author*) were doubtless the same, we are told, with those of the rest of mankind who have thought upon the matter; which may signify, either that these Jews conform'd their sentiments concerning the soul to those of the rest of mankind by mere tradition, or without more ado, or that they came to the same conclusions by the deductions of their own reason and reflection: but doubtless the rest of mankind held, not simply that the soul survived the body without having any interesting speculations concerning its state of survivorship, but that the soul survived the body in order to receive reward or punishment in a state of separate existence. This the Jews, according to Dr. Warburton, did not believe; and if you ask what hindered them, the doctor tells you, that Moses being silent concerning a future state of reward and punishment, and having established another sanction, the Jews had no expectation of a future state of retribution: that is, in plain terms the Jews paid so much regard to what Moses had established, as well as to what he omitted to establish, as to conclude that the rest of mankind were mistaken in the inference they drew from the doctrine of the soul's immortality. You go on then and ask, why did not the Jews reject the principle upon which the inference was grounded, since to all appearance, they had the very same inducement so far as they regarded Moses, to reject them both? did Moses deny the doctrine of future rewards and punishments? or did he proclaim the doctrine of the immortality of the soul? no, he was only silent, as silent as he could be concerning them both. Silent concerning a future state of reward and punishment, lest that doctrine should revolt them against his system of laws, which were established upon another sanction; and silent concerning the immortality or separate existence of the soul, because that doctrine was preparatory, or immediately led to the other; that is, to the doctrine of a future state of reward and punishment. Why then did not the authority of Moses prevail in the one case, as well as the other? why did the Jews fall in with the sentiments of the rest of mankind on one of these points, and not on the other? Dr. Warburton, indeed, speaks of something which Moses was necessitated to mention, from whence the Jews would of course infer the separate existence of the soul. But to say that Moses was necessitated to mention this matter, is saying, that Moses would have concealed it, if he could; and accordingly, when we come to consider this case, we shall find that in the opinion of Dr. Warburton, Moses delivered himself with the utmost obscurity concerning it. If then the Jews were so ready to reason, and infer in a case where they had no encouragement from Moses, and that

from



‘ from a narrative delivered in very obscure terms, what hindered  
 ‘ them from reasoning and inferring in a case, where Moses was  
 ‘ barely silent, and where they were led to reason and infer by the  
 ‘ nature of the thing, and without any obscurity to perplex them?  
 ‘ If Dr. Warburton should say that the temporal sanction upon  
 ‘ which the Mosaic institute was established did not so immediately  
 ‘ affect the doctrine of the immortality of the soul, as the doctrine  
 ‘ of future rewards and punishments. We would ask whether the  
 ‘ establishment of temporal rewards and punishments, was, in the  
 ‘ nature of the thing, inconsistent with the doctrine of future re-  
 ‘ wards and punishments? if not, the Jews, by the silence of Moses,  
 ‘ were left as free either to adopt the doctrine of future rewards  
 ‘ and punishments from popular tradition, or to infer it from the  
 ‘ nature of the thing, as to adopt or infer the doctrine of the im-  
 ‘ mortality of the soul. It will not be denied that the sentiments  
 ‘ which the Jews derived from Moses, and the sentiments which  
 ‘ they derived from other fountains of knowledge, stood upon  
 ‘ very different foundations. The circumstances of this difference  
 ‘ afford a sufficient proof that the Jews would conform themselves  
 ‘ to the teaching of Moses preferably to any other sort of instruc-  
 ‘ tion. Moses used his utmost endeavours, as far as was consistent  
 ‘ with truth, to conceal the doctrine of the immortality or separate  
 ‘ existence of the soul, as well as the doctrine of future rewards  
 ‘ and punishments. The rest of mankind held and taught them  
 ‘ both, and they both laid equally obvious to the reasonings and  
 ‘ inferences of the Jews, and were both equally uncontradicted by  
 ‘ any thing delivered in the writings of Moses; and yet the Jews  
 ‘ adopted the one doctrine and rejected the other. This is the case  
 ‘ of which we desire a clear and consistent account, and concerning  
 ‘ which we humbly presume Dr. W—— hath as yet given us no  
 ‘ competent satisfaction.

‘ It gives me great pain, says this author at the conclusion of  
 ‘ his performance, to differ so much from so learned and considerate  
 ‘ a writer as Dr. W——, as much pain at least as it gave the exa-  
 ‘ miner to differ from some of the doctors, whom he hath so can-  
 ‘ didly and politely chastised in his extraordinary performance;  
 ‘ and very possibly I may have as good reasons for undergoing it.  
 ‘ But truth goes the farthest; one difference naturally begets ano-  
 ‘ ther: had not this writer affected invidiously to drag some excel-  
 ‘ lent persons, who are highly and justly distinguished by the esteem  
 ‘ of the public into a disagreeable altercation, in which they neither  
 ‘ desired nor appeared to have any immediate concern; and all to  
 ‘ grace the triumph of a man in few respects perhaps within the  
 ‘ provinces of truth and soberness superior to any of them: Dr.  
 ‘ W—— might still for me have enjoyed his *separate existence* in  
 ‘ perfect tranquillity, secure in the indolence of common perusers,  
 ‘ and the implicit reverence of his obsequious admirers.’— In this  
 manner has our author expressed his indignation against some of

those petulant courtiers (to carry on his metaphor) who bow the knee round to Dr. W—'s throne, and prepare insults and contempt for such as dare refuse him a blind and unreserved obedience. We cannot help thinking that he may well be justified in his attack. Dr. Warburton himself must surely have taken offence at some of these coarse and nauseous adulations, with which he has lately been bedaubed; unless we should suppose him in the case of a despotic prince indeed, and that, by too frequent and close an application of them, the delicacy of his temper is by this time totally subdued.

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ART. V. *An account of the European settlements in America.* 2 vols. 8vo. Pr. 8 s. Doddsley.

THE performance before us, tho' it needs a certain finishing in order to command our thorough approbation and applause, yet contains in it a very considerable degree of merit. His narration of events, which make a part of our author's work, is agreeable and interesting. In his recital of the various particulars, which enter into his plan, tho' extremely succinct, he is not trifling or superficial; and the whole is pointed out to us with that perspicuity and distinction, which arises from an accuracy of ideas in the author, and from a perfect and steady conception of his object. A good deal of taste, and sentiment too, is discoverable in the reflections which he has interspersed, and which upon the whole derive an advantage upon his composition, and give it lustre and grace. In this last particular however he may perhaps be liable to some exception: 'tis very difficult for minds of a certain turn to keep a proper check upon themselves amidst the ideas which flow in upon them, and to maintain with regard to their own reflexions a just and delicate reserve: these, when they are not mingled naturally, and interwoven with the subject, but stand apart as it were, or are introduced with a sort of formality and parade, diffuse over the whole an air of affectation and conceit; and if at the same time they should be no more than the crude suggestions of vulgar sense and slight observation, nothing to a manly taste can be more disgusting. Our author's remarks, 'tis true, are not of this latter kind; many of them even bear the marks of superior penetration, and a finer cast of thought: some are of less significance and propriety. When he has acquainted us, for instance, that Columbus, when driven by a storm into the harbour of Lisbon, refused to go on shore and give an account of himself, notwithstanding the repeated commands of the king of Portugal, and told the officers of that monarch, that if violence was intended, he was prepared to meet force with force; there seems little occasion to add, that 'a spirited behaviour in almost any circumstance of strength is the most politic as well as most honourable course: we preserve respect at least by it, and with that we generally preserve every thing: but when we lose respect, every thing is lost; we invite, rather



‘ rather than suffer insults, and the first is the only one we can  
‘ resist with prudence.’ This observation, tho’ not mean, yet is  
sufficiently conveyed to the reader by the fact itself, and is not  
of importance enough to compensate for the interruption of the  
narrative. But after he has told us in another part of his work,  
that ‘ the Portuguese, the trustees and factors for foreign mer-  
‘ chants in the Brasil trade, tho’ so far from being remarkable  
‘ for their integrity, yet preserve in this point a fidelity equal to  
‘ that of the Spanish merchant, which has scarce ever been shaken  
‘ by any public or private cause whatsoever;’ we are not offended  
at his adding, ‘ A striking instance this, of what a custom origi-  
‘ nally built upon a few examples, and a consequent reputation  
‘ built upon that, will be able to effect in a succession of men of  
‘ very different natural characters and morals; and so different  
‘ is the spirit of commercial honesty from that of justice, as it is  
‘ an independent virtue, and influences the heart.’ The mind  
feels at once the propriety of this remark, and is agreeably re-  
lieved from a kind of embarrassment, which a circumstance seem-  
ingly inconsistent had thrown around it. We shall just observe,  
that the author has not been sufficiently attentive to his language;  
the harmony and propriety, and even the grammatical part of it;  
is sometimes neglected. In the expression, ‘ Sir Harry Vane, ra-  
‘ ther than remain idle, played at small games in New England,’  
there is a want of dignity; as there is of metaphorical accuracy in  
the following, ‘ Who could discern the rudiments of a future  
‘ people, wanting only time to be unfolded, in the seed?’ The  
following passage will give the reader some idea of our author’s  
talent at description. The soldiers of Cortes being obliged to re-  
treat before the Mexicans, ‘ No sooner (says he) was the retreat  
‘ begun, when their ears were alarmed by the dreary sound of the  
‘ sacred trumpet, so called because it was permitted to the priests  
‘ alone to sound it; and that only when they animated the people  
‘ on the part of their gods. The sound was doleful, continued,  
‘ and strong, inspiring a contempt of death, and a dark religious  
‘ fury. Immediately ensued a horrid cry, which resounded from  
‘ all parts; and this was followed by an attack of more than  
‘ common rage upon the rear of the Spaniards, which was broke  
‘ entirely, after a gallant and bloody stand. All order was now  
‘ lost: the general’s commands were drowned in the cry and ru-  
‘ mult of the fight; the Tlascalans; who were in the front, threw  
‘ themselves precipitately into the trench; some made a fruitless  
‘ opposition; others attempted to gain the brigantines, whilst the  
‘ Mexicans on shore, in canoes, wading or swimming, upon every  
‘ side assaulted and slaughtered them, with the most horrid cries,  
‘ and rage almost inconceivable. With difficulty Cortes and some  
‘ of his troops escaped on board the brigantines, wounded and de-  
‘ ferted. A thousand Tlascalans lay dead upon the causeway, many  
‘ Spaniards, and scarce any escaped without a wound. What was

‘ the saddest circumstance of all, forty were taken prisoners, of  
 ‘ whose destiny there was no doubt. Night came on, but it  
 ‘ brought no rest to the afflicted Spaniards, since its darkness  
 ‘ could not conceal from them the triumph of the Mexicans, and  
 ‘ the fate of their friends. They saw the whole city shining with  
 ‘ lights, and heard it resounding with the dissonance of barbarous  
 ‘ music, and all the marks of an horrid joy. So great were the  
 ‘ fires and illuminations, that they could see distinctly the men  
 ‘ in motion, and all things preparing for the death of the pri-  
 ‘ soners, attended with the mortifying circumstance, that they  
 ‘ were to be sacrificed to their false gods. Cortes, in the midst  
 ‘ of all these calamitous circumstances, which lay heavy about his  
 ‘ heart, assumed an air of tranquillity, endeavouring to comfort  
 ‘ his soldiers with the hope of a timely revenge, and taking all  
 ‘ necessary care that they should not be attacked unawares. This  
 ‘ care was necessary; for, before morning appeared, the Mexi-  
 ‘ cans, elated with their late victory, and under the auspices of  
 ‘ these gods, whom they believed they had rendered propitious by  
 ‘ the human blood which washed their altars, and animated by  
 ‘ the sound of the consecrated trumpet, sallied out to attack the  
 ‘ Spaniards in their quarters. The attack was violent, but re-  
 ‘ pelled at length with an incredible slaughter of the Mexicans.’  
 Our author’s account of the judicious regulations of the French  
 with respect to their colonies, is well worthy our observation. The  
 passage is too long to be inserted; we shall transcribe his reflexions  
 at the conclusion of it. ‘ I have dwelt the longer (*says he*) upon  
 ‘ the French policy, as it regards their colonies, because it is just  
 ‘ to give due honour to all those who advance the intercourse of  
 ‘ mankind, the peopling of the earth, and the advantage of their  
 ‘ country by wise and effectual regulations. But I principally in-  
 ‘ sist upon it, that it may, if possible, serve for an example to our-  
 ‘ selves; that it may excite an emulation in us; that it may help  
 ‘ to rouse us out of the languor into which we seem to be fallen.  
 ‘ The war we now carry on principally regards our colonies, and  
 ‘ is a sufficient proof that we are come at last to know their value.  
 ‘ But if we are not to hope for better success than has hitherto  
 ‘ attended a very just cause, the next peace will probably contract  
 ‘ the field we hop’d to lay open to our industry in America. But  
 ‘ then we ought therefore to cultivate what still remains of it with  
 ‘ tenfold industry: we ought to guard with the most unremitting  
 ‘ vigilance that inclosed spring, that sealed fountain, the waters  
 ‘ of which we reserve to ourselves, and direct into such channels,  
 ‘ and make to pursue such windings and turnings as best serve  
 ‘ our purposes. We have, I believe, pretty well discovered most  
 ‘ of our errors, and the advantage our enemy and rival has ta-  
 ‘ ken, not only of our supineness, but of a contrary genius in his  
 ‘ councils. We ought to rouse ourselves from the former, and  
 ‘ prepare to imitate the latter. Our business is to fight against  
 ‘ Alexander,



‘ Alexander, and not to rail at him : and truly I do not know any  
‘ thing that, for this long time past, has contributed more to  
‘ degrade our character for humanity in the eyes of foreigners,  
‘ or to instil into ourselves a low and illiberal way of thinking,  
‘ than that vein of licentious scurrility and abuse by which, in all  
‘ sorts of writings, we are apt to vilify and traduce the French na-  
‘ tion. There is nothing which hinders people from acting pro-  
‘ perly, more than indulging themselves in a vain and effeminate  
‘ licence of tongue. A man who loves his country, and can at  
‘ once oppose and esteem an enemy, would view our present cir-  
‘ cumstances in a light, I conceive, somewhat like the following.  
‘ We have been engaged for above a century with France in a  
‘ noble contention for the superiority in arms, in politics, in learn-  
‘ ing, and in commerce; and there never was a time perhaps  
‘ when this struggle was more critical. If we succeed in the war,  
‘ even our success, unless managed with prudence, will be, like  
‘ some former successes, of little benefit to us; if we should fail,  
‘ which God forbid, prudence may make our misfortunes of more  
‘ use to us than an ill-managed success, if they teach us to avoid  
‘ our former errors, if they make us less careless, if they make us  
‘ cultivate the advantages we have with care and judgment; this,  
‘ and not our opinion of the enemy, must decide the long contest  
‘ between us.’ This is an instance, among many others, of the  
rectitude of our author’s understanding, and of that just view of  
things which has elevated his mind above the silly national pre-  
judices of the vulgar, yet left his heart warm in the interest of  
his country. — Here is a passage, which, tho’ amusing, might  
perhaps be cited as an instance of a mind a little overshooting it-  
self in its endeavours after refinement. ‘ There seems to be a re-  
‘ markable providence in the casting the parts, if I may use that  
‘ expression, of the several European nations who act upon the  
‘ stage of America. The Spaniard, proud, lazy, and magnifi-  
‘ cent, has an ample walk in which to expatiate, a soft climate  
‘ to indulge his love of ease, and a profusion of gold and silver to  
‘ procure him all those luxuries his pride demands, but which his  
‘ laziness would refuse him. The Portuguese, naturally indigent  
‘ at home, and enterprising rather than industrious abroad, has  
‘ gold and diamonds as the Spaniard has, wants them as he does,  
‘ but possesses them in a more useful, tho’ a less ostentatious man-  
‘ ner. The English, of a reasoning disposition, thoughtful and  
‘ cool, and men of business rather than of great industry, impa-  
‘ tient of much fruitless labour, abhorrent of constraint, and lo-  
‘ vers of a country-life, have a lot, which indeed produces neither  
‘ gold nor silver; but they have a large tract of a fine continent;  
‘ a noble field for the exercise of agriculture, and sufficient to fur-  
‘ nish their trade, without laying them under great difficulties:  
‘ intolerant as they are of the most useful restraints, their com-  
‘ merce flourishes from the freedom every man has of pursuing it

‘ according to his own ideas, and directing his life after his own  
 ‘ fashion. The French, active, lively, enterprising, pliable, and  
 ‘ politic, and, tho’ changing their pursuits, always pursuing the  
 ‘ present object with eagerness, are notwithstanding tractable and  
 ‘ obedient to rules and laws which bridle these dispositions, and  
 ‘ wind and turn them to proper courses. This people have a  
 ‘ country, where more is to be effected by managing the people,  
 ‘ than by cultivating the ground; where a pedling commerce,  
 ‘ that requires constant motion, flourishes more than agriculture  
 ‘ or a regular traffic, where they have difficulties which keep them  
 ‘ alert by struggling with them, and where their obedience to a  
 ‘ wise government serves them for personal wisdom: in the islands,  
 ‘ the whole is the work of their policy, and a right turn their go-  
 ‘ vernment has taken. The Dutch have got a rock or two, on  
 ‘ which to display the miracles of frugality and diligence (which  
 ‘ are their virtues), and on which they have exerted these virtues,  
 ‘ and shewn these miracles.’ The picture which he has here given us  
 of these several nations seems not ill drawn; and indeed his talent  
 for marking characters, of which there are many specimens in  
 his work, is not despicable. We shall close our observations  
 upon this performance with remarking, that it receives particular  
 advantage from these clear and firm impressions which it conveys  
 to the mind, and above all from an agreeable tincture of candour  
 and humanity which runs thro’ it; the result, not of that un-  
 meaning, effeminate, and undistinguishing weakness of mind,  
 which affects us rather with disgust than sympathy, but of a cer-  
 tain freedom and generosity of spirit, which is generally connec-  
 ted with a more enlarged and comprehensive turn of thinking.

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ART. VI. *The contest in America between Great Britain and France, with its consequences and importance; giving an account of the views and designs of the French, with the interests of Great Britain, and the situation of the British and French colonies, in all parts of America: in which a proper barrier between the two nations in North America is pointed out, with a method to prosecute the war, so as to obtain that necessary security for our colonies. By an impartial hand. 8vo. Pr. 3 s. in boards. Millar.*

THE author of this performance has a just claim to impar-  
 tiality, as he seems to be actuated wholly by a love of truth,  
 and zeal for the good of the public. He appears likewise to have  
 spared no pains to inform himself fully of all that relates to his  
 subject. We wish however that he had bestowed more attention  
 in qualifying himself to inform others. His treatise is so stuffed  
 with an immense number of tedious repetitions, and is besides  
 written with such a total disregard to method and connexion, that  
 the reader, instead of being instructed, is bewildered and disgusted.

His



His stile is unformed and incorrect, and many of his periods require a sedate study to unravel them, as he seems almost to have taken pains to intermix them in such a manner as to render the sense of them perplexed and intricate. In page 219. he tells us, 'Customs like these surely alter the very nature of men, as well as the genius of nations; and makes the French, who delight so much in arms and conquests every where, defended and secured by their forts and garrisons, as they are here, while we are every where open and exposed, so very ready on all occasions to take up the hatchet, as they call it, and pillage a defenceless people, whom they esteem rich likewise, and worth plundering; while they have the greatest occasion for such plunder, indigent, necessitous, and naked as they are in Canada.' He concludes his fifth section with these words: 'It was not to encourage, and far less to prolong this war, that we have been at this pains to represent our situation in America, but it was with hopes of being put in such a situation by it, as to obtain a firm and lasting peace from it; to which this consideration of some security for our frontiers is the best, if not the only preparative, as it was surely the only effectual way to have preserved it before, or to do it hereafter.' In the sixth page of his preface he informs us, that the chief subject of his enquiry is *to propose means for prosecuting the present war in such a manner as to obtain a firm and secure peace from it at last*. He tells us the same in the seventh page, and in upwards of fifty other places of his performance; which, if it were methodically digested, would shrink into one third of its present bulk, and be still more useful to the public. The author we think justly blames the nation for having been too negligent hitherto of its interest in America. He says, that all public measures relating to our colonies are too much influenced by the opinions of our merchants, whose chief views are the profits of trade; that the principal thing to be considered by all states is power and dominion, without which trade must soon be at an end; whereas when the former is acquired and secured, trade will follow of course: by which maxim it is too evident the French have regulated their conduct. He shews that it is a general mistake to think that our colonies are already too extensive. If they were twice as populous, and confined to one half the territory, they would be of less service to Britain than at present, as they could not then apply themselves to planting, but would be obliged to make and consume their own manufactures, without furnishing any commodity for the British market. In New England and New York, on account of the number of inhabitants, lands are already very dear: therefore they cannot raise and transport a gross and bulky commodity with any profit. Where such a commodity is raised, it is necessary that the planters have a large range of good lands almost for nothing, and be allowed to remove to fresh lands where the earth produces a crop in a manner of itself,

or at least with little labour and culture. Many planters have therefore removed to the Apalachian mountains, and even beyond them, from whence he assures us tobacco of late years has been brought to Britain.

The author divides his work into five sections, which have little or no dependence on each other, and, like the acts in some modern plays, any of them may be reckoned the first. He begins with giving us an account of the French encroachments, the first and principal of which is Crown Point, where they endeavoured to settle about the year 1726, but were prevented by the colony of Massachusetts's bay, who ordered them to retire. Soon after, while this colony, and that of New Hampshire, were engaged in a dispute about their bounds, the French established themselves at Crown Point without any other opposition than a few protests against their proceeding, particularly by the five nations of Indians. The expensive suit betwixt the colonies of New York and New Jersey prevented them from disturbing or expelling the French, while with great animosity they were doing their utmost to impoverish and ruin each other. The merchants in England likewise contributed to the establishment of the French at Crown Point, by opposing the important settlement of Oswego, from interested motives, as a company of them had engrossed the whole trade of supplying the colony with goods for the Indian trade, as they pretended; whereas, instead of retailing them to the English or Indians, they sold them wholesale to the French at their new settlements, although the Indians remonstrated against this clandestine trade, as prejudicial to our interest and their welfare; and told us, that *the French built their forts with English manufactures*. Other scandalous practices tended to promote the French interest, such as, our shameful desertion of the five nations, captivating some of their youths for slaves, taking in their corn-fields in surveys of lands, selling them water for rum, &c. The author declines enlarging on many aggravating circumstances, which, he says, are too gross to be publicly told. But we think such fraud and perfidy, as it deserves the severest punishment, cannot be too fully exposed. By such infamous practices the nation is not only dishonoured, but greatly injured. We find by Mr. Ellis's account of Hudson's bay, that our distant traders scruple not to divest themselves of christianity and humanity; and we wish that our late losses in the East Indies may not be found to be owing to the insolent oppression, and dishonest proceedings, of the traders in those parts. Our author next gives some account of the French encroachments on the Ohio, which at first on account of the disputes among the colonies were disregarded. As the bounds of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, join together about Fort du Quesne on the Ohio, and are still undetermined, many people who would have taken grants of lands on that river, were prevented by not knowing who was the proprietor. The Ohio company  
again



again had a large grant at the same place, which was as undetermined as the rest; so that four competitors mutually opposed each other, and prevented that important frontier from being secured. The Ohio company, he says, are unjustly blamed, as being the cause of the present war. It would be for the interest of the nation that there were many Ohio companies. Although the French pretend that we have no other claim to that river but from this company, it appears from the books of the secretary's office in Virginia, that, before their encroachments, that colony had granted 3,000,000 acres west of the Allegany mountains upon the branches of the river Ohio, besides the several other settlements made there by the people of Pennsylvania. The great inconvenience in surveying new grants has prevented the establishment of plantations on that river: he therefore proposes, that the granter should pitch upon a certain place, from whence the limits of the grant may be laid off by radii to any fixed distance, so that others may settle safely in that neighbourhood, and be sure of not trespassing upon their neighbour. For the mutual protection of all the plantations against their common enemy, our author offers a scheme of a union of our colonies. He disapproves of a general union as impracticable; but having made three grand divisions of our settlements in North America, he proposes a particular union of each, namely, that Nova Scotia, New England, New York, and New Jersey, should compose the northern union; Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, the middle; and both the Carolinas, with Georgia, the southern; all the colonies in each union having a natural connexion and interest in one another, and the same places. He complains, that tho' we place our chief strength and dependence upon our superiority of numbers of men in North America, yet we make no use of this great natural advantage, and only raise two or three thousand men from among many hundred thousand that are able to bear arms.

In the second section he treats of the views and designs of the French in America, where he affirms, that they have no original right to any spot; what they have, they got by usurpation and encroachment. We are afraid his zeal has carried him too far in this assertion; for though the English and Spaniards were the first discoverers of that new world, it does not from thence follow that their touching at several places gave them a right to the whole continent. The French designs in America are first to get possession of Nova Scotia, and to annex that extensive province to Cape Britain, by which they would gain the whole fishery of all those coasts, represented by their historian Charlevoix as more valuable than mines of gold; and would thereby acquire a naval power which in time would be superior to that of Britain. 2dly, They intend to suppress the progress and farther growth of the British colonies in North America, by encroaching upon them, and surrounding them on all sides. 3dly, They want to secure the whole continent

continent of North America west from the Apalachian mountains and the river St. Laurence exclusively to themselves. 4thly, Wanting a convenient port upon the sea-coast, they intend to seize New York, which they attempted in the year 1689, but without success. 5thly, They propose to raise tobacco on the banks of the Mississippi, and endeavour to alienate our Indian allies opposite to Carolina and Georgia. The situation of the French in North-America, our author in the 3d section says, is very convenient for the execution of all these schemes, which they have had in view for many years. By Niagara and Fort du Quesne they link together their two distant colonies of Canada and Louisiana, through which there is a water-carriage upwards of 3000 miles, so that while we are obliged to march through pathless woods, and over barren mountains, they can easily and suddenly join their troops without fatiguing them, by means of boats. To infest our frontiers they have raised a chain of forts, almost all of which are built upon our own territories; namely, Crown-Point, Fort la Motte, Chambli, St. John's, Sorel, Montreal, la Galette, Fort Frontenac, Toronto, Niagara, Presqu'Isle, Fort du Quesne, Sandoski, Fort Miamis, Great Wiant, Little Wiant, le Detroit, Missilimakinac, Fort St. Joseph, le Rocher, Fort Chartres, Haskaskies, Kappa, and Albasmas; besides Quebec, Lewisburg, Trois Rivières, New Orleans, and Fort Lewis at Mobile; with several other smaller ones. Their armed force is likewise very formidable. In Canada and Louisiana they are said to have 11,000 regular troops, 4000 woodsmen, or coupeurs de Bois, besides 25,000 militia, who are reckoned equal to any regular troops in that part of the world.

In the 4th section, the author describes the situation and importance, 1st. of Crown-Point, and the several passes to Canada. 2dly, Of the passes to the great lakes, and particularly of Niagara, which fort lies in the midst of the extensive territories of the six nations, commands in a manner all the interior parts of North America, and is a key as it were to that whole continent; on which account the author employs several pages, in shewing the absolute necessity of recovering that place from the French, if we desire to secure a lasting peace, and cut off the occasion of new wars. He next considers the river Ohio, and Fort du Quesne. This river is remarkable for its gentle current, and waters one of the most fertile countries in all America; where the Indian habitations are very frequent, on account of the many salt springs and salt rivulets with which it abounds, particularly in the neighbourhood of Fort du Quesne. As salt is a very scarce commodity in the inland parts of America, great herds of deer and wild oxen resort to those springs for the benefit of the salt. These are followed by the hunters, and they are attended by the traders; so that the country thereabouts is the mart of trade from all parts of North-America; and Fort du Quesne, by its situation and many conveniencies, our author thinks is the fittest place of any to become the capital of that



that whole continent. He advises therefore, now or never, to oblige the French to quit all their encroachments, lest if they should secure and fortify our frontiers in North-America, their forts there may cost us as much as the fortifications in Flanders have done. And as a proper barrier betwixt us and them, he proposes the river St. Laurence from its mouth to its source, and the great lakes that empty themselves into it, our enemies having even remarked that we have hitherto carelessly left our colonies exposed on all sides. 'The English (*say they*) take very little precaution to guard their colonies from a surprize, or an attack of their neighbours: infomuch that, if the French had as much constancy, and took as proper measures to secure their conquests in America, which they are now aiming at, as they shew boldness and intrepidity in making them, the crown of England would not hold one inch of land perhaps on all the continent of North-America.'

The fifth section is partly a repetition of what was before said in the end of the third, and consists of some vague reflections upon the fatal effects of suffering the French to settle on our frontiers in North-America. To this is added a brief answer to the French vindication of their proceedings in America, as contained in a memorial presented by them last year to all the courts of Europe. As this answer is very imperfect and incompleat, it only shews the reader that something ought to be said in answer to the French memorial, and makes him wish that our author or some able pen would fully examine and refute what has been so speciously alledged by them in their own vindication. As the subject of this treatise is interesting, and no where treated of in so full a manner, the work on that account claims the attention of the public; and those who will not grudge the pains to search for our author's sense thro' his maze of words, will here find a good deal of information relating to our American affairs.

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ART. VII. *The Epigoniad, a poem, in nine books.* 12mo. Pr. 6s. fine; 4s. common paper. Hamilton and Balfour.

THE epopée or heroic poem has generally been looked upon by critics antient and modern, and indeed by all mankind, as the master-piece of human wit, as the most fertile genius, the happiest taste, and the most extensive knowledge must necessarily unite in the formation of it. We are not therefore to wonder, that from the beginning of time to this day so few models of perfection in this exalted species of writing have yet appeared in the world; nor ought we to be in the least surpris'd at the many unsuccessful attempts of men, whose talents and abilities though by no means contemptible, are notwithstanding very unequal to so arduous a performance. Such, without farther preface, we will venture

ture to determine is the piece before us, which resembles an epic poem in very little else but the outward form, and extent of it, dragging its slow length along through nine tedious books. Its strange and pedantic title is thus explained by the author himself. (See Preface, pag. xli.)

‘ The following poem is called the *Epigoniad*, because the heroes whose actions it celebrates have got the name of the *epigones* (or descendants) being the sons of those who attempted the conquest of Thebes in a former expedition.’

This is all the intelligence which our author hath thought fit to give us, concerning the subject of his poem. There is no general plan prefixed to the whole, nor argument (as we expected) at the head of each book; so that the reader is obliged, like a benighted traveller, to wander through this strange country, without any guide to direct him, or a map of the roads he is to pass through. The subject however, on inspection, we find to be the siege of Thebes, where, contrary to all order of time and antient history, Agamemnon and Menelaus are introduced as principal characters; an anachronism which the author endeavours to excuse, by alledging that it was a fact of little consequence, and that he did not therefore chuse to deprive himself of two illustrious names, very proper to adorn his catalogue of heroes: though for the same reason he might as well have brought in prince Eugene, and the duke of Marlborough. Diomed, for which indeed he has the authority of Homer, is the hero of the poem; but appears in a very different light from that in which he is drawn by the blind bard, being represented in the *Epigoniad* as a weak and effeminate poltron, who breaks his word, sacrifices his honour and virtue, and at last betrays and almost ruins his country for the sake of his mistress Cassandra: instead of Sthenelus, who is said to have accompanied Diomed in this expedition, he has here substituted Ulysses; because (he tells us) it is a name which every body is better acquainted with. If the poem had merit sufficient to entitle it to a serious critique, we would gladly have taken the pains to collect the subject matter of every book, and given our observations on the conduct of the whole in regard to the fable, sentiment, diction, and machinery. But the little specimen which we shall subjoin, will be sufficient to convince the impartial, that the *Epigoniad* would hardly deserve so much trouble. It is written in rhyme (if \* rhyme it may

\* Our readers may probably think this *if* not so improper, when we assure him that the following rhymes are to be met with in the *epigoniad*:

‘ The Spartan hero aim’d his weighty *spear*,  
 ‘ And thus to Jove address’d an ardent *pray’r*.  
 ‘ To find where least the ferried orb cou’d *bear*  
 ‘ The strong impression of a pointed *war*.  
 ‘ That thus I live to see our antient *race*  
 ‘ At once extinguish’d, and for ever *cease*.

Here



may be called) and is in every part of it a poor and servile imitation of the great Homer, whose defects our author hath faithfully copied, whilst the beauties of that divine writer have unluckily escaped him. The repeated descriptions of battles, and continued scene of war and slaughter which we meet with in the Iliad, have generally been ranked by the judicious amongst the blemishes of the Iliad, nor have the strange and improbable fictions related in some parts of the Odyssey met with more indulgence from the able and unprejudiced critic. These, therefore, the author of the epigoniad has carefully adopted. His two first books have scarce any thing in them, but a tedious detail of the miseries of war, the ringing of bucklers, and breast-plates, darts, javelins, swords, blood and wounds\*. All this he does in honour of the Iliad;

and  
Here indeed the rhyme would be a good rhyme if we read it according to the Irish manner of pronunciation; as would also the following

———— ‘ With loud harmonious *peal*,  
‘ Th’ immortal buckler rung, and golden *mail*.  
‘ Contending passions shook his mighty *frame*,  
‘ As warring winds impel the ocean’s *stream*.  
‘ Where rows of marble pillars bound the *space*,  
‘ To judgment sacred in the days of *peace*.

Nor are these more correct:

‘ The monarch thus, and thus the chief *reply’d*,  
‘ Whom fair *Ætolia’s* martial sons *obey’d*.  
‘ My arms alas! are these the same that *bow’d*  
‘ *Anteus*, and his giant force *subdu’d*.  
‘ No ties I hold; all piety *disclaim*,  
‘ Adverse to me the gods, and I to *them*.

We shall find also by way of rhymes, *rest* and *assist*, *lost* and *boast*, *steps* and *sleeps*, *brow* and *due*, *ship* and *deep*, with several others coupled by our author for brethren, who have no better title than these to so near a relation.

\*For a specimen of this take the following extract from Book 2. p. 33.

———— ‘ Clytodemus’s son a jav’lin threw;  
‘ With force impel’d, it lighten’d as it flew,  
‘ And struck the right-hand courser to the ground,  
‘ Ethon for swiftness in the race renown’d.  
‘ Behind his ear the deadly weapon stood,  
‘ Loos’d his high neck, and drew a stream of blood.  
‘ Groaning he sunk; and spread his flowing mane,  
‘ A shining circle on the dusty plain.  
‘ Intangled deep the royal chariot stood,  
‘ With hostile spears beset, an iron wood.’

And, a little after:

‘ With grief Leophron saw the warrior slain  
‘ He snatch’d a pond’rous mace from off the plain,  
‘ Cut in the Thracian woods, with snags around  
‘ Of pointed steel with iron circles bound.  
‘ Heav’d with gigantic force the club to throw,  
‘ He swung it thrice, and hurl’d it at his foe.

‘ Thund’ring

and in his fourth proceeds to what he calls an experiment (*and a fatal one it is*) in that kind of fiction which distinguishes the *Odyssæy*; and what, reader, do you think this agreeable Homeric fiction is? in truth, nothing less than an account of a Cyclops, who makes nothing of killing fifty men.

—— ‘Thirty youths he slew, against the stones  
‘ And ragged cliffs he dash’d their crackling bones.

‘ Twenty

‘ Thund’ring upon his armed head it fell;  
‘ The brazen helmet rang with stunning knell.  
‘ As some huge rock by forceful engines thrown,  
‘ When hostile arms invest a frontier town,  
‘ Threat’ning destruction, rolls along the skies;  
‘ And *war itself* stands wond’ring as it flies:  
‘ If on some turret’s top the tempest falls,  
‘ The tottering structure tumbles from the walls  
‘ With hideous crash; thus, stooping to the ground,  
‘ Atrides sunk; his silver arms resound.  
‘ But Pallas, mixing in the dire debate,  
‘ A life to rescue, yet not due to fate,  
‘ Had o’er his head her cloudy buckler held;  
‘ And half the fury of the blow repel’d.’

What idea our author cou’d have of *wond’ring war*, we cannot pretend to determine; to us it appears little better than absolute nonsense. Page 41. we are told that;

‘ Thro’ all the air a storm of jav’lins sung;  
‘ With sounding blows each hollow buckler rung.  
‘ First Enopæus felt a deadly wound,  
‘ Who in Amycle till’d the fruitful ground;  
‘ To great Andremon’s spear he yields his breath,  
‘ And starts and quivers in the grasp of death.  
‘ Next Hegesippus press’d th’insanguin’d plain;  
‘ Leophron’s jav’lin mix’d him with the slain.  
‘ On Malea’s cliffs——  
‘ Next Arcas, Cleon, valiant Chromius dy’d;  
‘ With Dares to the Spartan chiefs ally’d,  
‘ And Phœmius, whom the gods in early youth  
‘ Had form’d for virtue and the love of truth;  
‘ His gen’rous soul to noble deeds they turn’d,  
‘ And love to *mankind* in his bosom burn’d:  
‘ Cold thro’ his throat the *hissing* weapon glides,  
‘ And on his neck the waving locks divides.  
‘ His fate the graces mourn’d.’——

In the word *mankind* the stress must be laid on the first syllable, which is not common; but it is, we suppose, a *licentia poetica*; as is also the image in the next line, of a *hissing cold* weapon, in opposition to the expression generally used of *hissing hot*. The whole, in short, of this part of the poem, may be comprehended in these two lines:

They stop, they charge, again the combat burns,  
They bleed, they conquer, and retreat by turns.

Which however *true* it might be, cannot possibly be very *entertaining*.



- ‘ Twenty his feet and heavy hands pursue,
- ‘ As to the ocean in despair they flew;
- ‘ Striving the summit of the beach to gain,
- ‘ With headlong course to rush into the main.
- ‘ Two yet surviv’d; who supplicating strove,
- ‘ With humble suit, his barb’rous soul to move.’

And what became of these? why, truly, like the dragon of Wantley,

At one sup,

He eat them up,

As one would eat an apple.

Or, as our poet as sweetly sings,

—— ‘ He lifts them both on high,

‘ With hands and feet extended in the sky,

‘ Then dash’d them thrice against the rocky shore,

‘ Gnaw’d their warm flesh, and drank their streaming gore.’

This our author calls an imitation of Homer; but if Homer himself had wrote this, would not Horace have cried out,

*Quodcumque ostendis mihi sic, incredulus odi.*

Does not this gentleman then, in regard to his imitation of Homer, put us in mind of Alexander’s courtiers, who, because their sovereign had a wry neck, always carried their heads on one side out of complaisance to him? If the author of the Epigoniad has made thus free with Homer, so has he, if we are not mistaken, with his translator also, from whom he seems to have borrowed many lines and expressions. He has also taken the liberty, to which to be sure he has a right, to steal now and then from himself.

‘ Before the king the armed bands retire,

‘ As shepherd swains avoid a lion’s ire.

‘ He said, and at the king his jav’lin threw,

‘ Which, aim’d amiss, with erring fury flew.

‘ Loud rung the echoing brass with stunning knell.

‘ With both my hands I rent my rooted hair.’

These lines, with many others, our author has repeated over and over in several parts of his poem. He has this indeed in excuse to plead for it, viz. that the lines are his own; but, if he wanted another, we could help him to it, namely, that if *he did not repeat them*, nobody else would. If any of our readers have a mind for a simile out of the *Epigoniad*, he may read the following, which we can assure him is one of the best in the whole poem.

‘ As when a shepherd swain, in desert shades,

‘ The blood-nurs’d offspring of the wolf invades;

‘ If, to protect her young, appears the dame,

‘ Her angry teeth display’d, and eyes of flame;

‘ With darts at first, and threat’ning shouts he tries,

‘ To awe the guardian, and assert the prize:

‘ But, when she springs, the close encounter dreads,

‘ And trembling, from the angry foe recedes.

‘ So Menelaus fled.’

Mene-

Menelaus however fled to very little purpose; for, like many other people who run away, he was afterwards arrested.

———— ‘ In full career

‘ He stood arrested by a vulgar spear.’

which no doubt was hard fate for a sovereign prince, and has scarce ever happened from the times of Menelaus to Theodore king of Corsica.

But that our readers may not imagine we have here industriously selected only a few objectionable lines (which may be found in every piece) from a poem of real merit, we will fairly lay before them the best part of it, which contains the episode of Philoctetes, in the 7th book. Cleon is sent by the Thebans in search of Hercules. He comes to Philoctetes, who informs him, that

— ‘ Hercules no more exerts his might,

‘ Against oppressive force, for injur’d right :

‘ Retir’d, among the gods, he sits serene,

‘ And views, beneath him far, this mortal scene.’

He afterwards tells him the whole story of Hercules’s death on Mount Ceta. As our author had here a good tale to tell, and the great Sophocles before him to borrow from, as much as he pleased, we might expect something spirited in the narration; the beginning of it is as follows :

‘ The wife of Jove (Pæonides reply’d)

‘ All arts in vain to crush the hero try’d ;

‘ For brighter from her hate his virtue burn’d ;

‘ And disappointed still, the goddess mourn’d.

‘ His ruin to effect at last she strove

‘ By jealousy, the rage of injur’d love.

‘ The bane to Deianira’s breast convey’d,

‘ Who, as a rival, fear’d th’ Œchalian maid.

‘ The goddess knew, that, jealous of her lord,

‘ A robe she kept with latent poisons stor’d ;

‘ The centaur’s gift, bequeath’d her, to reclaim

‘ The hero’s love, and light his dying flame ;

‘ If e’er, devoted to a stranger’s charms,

‘ He stray’d, unconstant to her widow’d arms

‘ But giv’n with treacherous intent to prove

‘ The death of nature, not the life of love.

‘ Mad from her jealousy, the charm she try’d :

‘ His love to change, the deadly robe apply’d :

‘ And, guiltless of the present which he bore,

‘ Lychas convey’d it to the Cœnian shore.

‘ For there to all the gods the hero paid

‘ An hundred victims, for their friendly aid :

‘ When favour’d from above, his arm o’erthrew

‘ The proud Eurytus, and his warriors flew.

‘ The venom’d robe the hero took, nor fear’d

‘ A gift by conjugal respects endear’d :



• And straight resign'd the lion's shaggy spoils,  
• The mantle which he wore in all his toils.  
• No sign of harm the fatal present show'd;  
• Till rous'd by heat its secret venom glow'd:  
• Straight on the flesh it seiz'd, like stiffest glue,  
• And scorching deep, to ev'ry member grew.  
• Then tearing with his hands th' infernal snare;  
• His skin he rent, and laid the muscles bare;  
• While streams of blood, descending from the wound,  
• Mix'd with the gore of victims on the ground.  
• The guiltless Lychas, in his furious mood,  
• He seiz'd, as trembling by his side he stood:  
• Him, by the slender ancle snatch'd, he swung;  
• And 'gainst a rocky promontory flung:  
• Which, from the dire event, his name retains;  
• Thro' his white locks impurpled rush'd the brains.  
• Aw'd by the deed, his desp'rate rage to shun,  
• Our bold companions from his presence run:  
• I too, conceal'd behind a rock, remain'd;  
• My love and sympathy by fear restrain'd:  
• For furious 'midst the sacred fires he flew;  
• The victims scatter'd, and the hearths o'erthrew.  
• Then sinking prostrate, where a tide of gore  
• From oxen slain had blacken'd all the shore,  
• His form divine he roll'd in dust and blood;  
• His groans the hills re-echo'd and the flood.  
• Then rising furious, to the ocean's streams  
• He rush'd, in hope to quench his raging flames;  
• But burning still the unextinguish'd pain,  
• The shore he left, and stretch'd into the main.  
• A galley, on the Cœnian beach we found;  
• Her furled canvass to the breeze unbound;  
• And trac'd his desp'rate course, till far before  
• We saw him land on Cœta's desert shore.  
• Towards the skies his furious hands he rear'd,  
• And thus, across the deep, his voice we heard:  
• 'Sov'reign of heav'n and earth! whose boundless sway  
• The fates of men and mortal things obey!  
• If e'er delighted from the courts above,  
• In human form, you sought Alcmena's love;  
• If fame's unchanging voice to all the earth,  
• With truth, proclaims you author of my birth;  
• Whence, from a course of spotless glory run,  
• Successful toils and wreaths of triumph won,  
• Am I thus wretched? better, that before  
• Some monster fierce had drunk my streaming gore;  
• Or crush'd by Cacus, foe to gods and men,  
• My batter'd brains had strew'd his rocky den;

*The EPIGONIAD, a Poem.*

• Than, from my glorious toils and triumphs past,  
• To fall subdu'd by female arts, at last.  
• O cool my boiling blood, ye winds, that blow  
• From mountains loaded with eternal snow,  
• And crack the icy cliffs : in vain ! in vain !  
• Your rigor cannot quench my raging pain !  
• For round this heart the furies wave their brands,  
• And wring my entrails with their burning hands.  
• Now bending from the skies, O wife of Jove !  
• Enjoy the vengeance of thy injur'd love :  
• For fate, by me, the thund'rer's guilt atones ;  
• And, punish'd in her son, Alcmena groans :  
• The object of your hate shall soon expire ;  
• Fix'd on my shoulders preys a net of fire :  
• Whom nor the toils nor dangers could subdue,  
• By false Eurystheus dictated from you ;  
• Nor tyrants lawless, nor the monstrous brood,  
• Which haunts the desert or infests the flood,  
• Nor Greece, nor all the barb'rous climes that lie,  
• Where Phœbus ever points his golden eye ;  
• A woman hath o'erthrown ! ye gods ! I yield  
• To female arts, unconquer'd in the field.  
• My arms—alas ! are these the same that bow'd  
• Anteus, and his giant force subdu'd ?  
• That dragg'd Nemea's monster from his den ;  
• And dy'd, with dragon's gore, the Lernean fen ?  
• Alas, alas ! their mighty muscles fail,  
• While pains infernal ev'ry nerve assail :  
• Alas, alas ! I feel in streams of woe  
• These eyes dissolv'd, before untaught to flow.  
• Awake my virtue, oft in dangers try'd,  
• Patient in toils, in deaths untterrify'd,  
• Rouse to my aid ; nor let my labors past,  
• With fame atchiev'd, be blotted by the last :  
• Firm and unmov'd, the present shock endure ;  
• Once triumph, and for ever rest secure.'

This is the utmost stretch of our author's abilities : whether they are sufficient to qualify him for an epic poet, we must leave to our readers determination. We acknowledge, that, in our opinion, the author of the *Epigoniad*, though apparently a man of learning and taste, is by no means equal to the great task which he has undertaken, and which is reserved only for those few

*Quos æquus amavit*

*Jupiter, &c.*

We had forgot to observe, in justice to our author, that, in his short preface to this poem, there are many just and sensible remarks on the beauties and defects of epic poetry, and that he has



has pointed out the right path, tho' he hath not himself trod in it; which brings to our mind the remark of one of our most eminent poets on the critics of his age, where he says,

' Rules for good verse they first with pains indite,  
' Then shew us what is *bad* by what *they* write.'

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ART. VIII. *Medical observations and inquiries. By a Society of physicians in London. 8vo. Vol. I. Pr. 6 s. Johnston. (Continued.)*

IN our last number we left off with an essay on farsaparilla by Mr. William Fordyce surgeon: and now we resume the *Medical Observations*, beginning with an account of the Peruvian bark, by John Fordyce physician, who favours us with seven cases of the scrophula and scorbutic habit in which the cortex was of eminent service. We must however beg this gentleman's pardon, if we cannot think with him, ' An opinion has generally prevailed, that ' all heating medicines are prejudicial in those distempers; and that ' the cure of them is limited to neutral salts, calcined sponges and ' shells, the æthiopses, and other mercurial preparations.' Who ever thought of bringing in Wiseman and Turner as medical authorities? We could produce a muster-roll of names with Latin terminations, to prove that the cure of the scrophula has been attempted by crude antimony, salt of amber and of vipers, iron, millipedes, the roots of zedoary, ginger, cassamunair, gentian, and all the warm bitters, saffrafas, guaiacum, and the favourite farsaparilla. Sorry we are likewise to dissent from the opinion of Dr. Fordyce, who seems to think that a suppuration of the parotides is not eligible even when something critical appears to have been thrown on these glands. *Fortis quidem Ballonius, fortis etiam Hippocrates, fortior autem experientia.*

In the 19th article we find a curious account of a leprosy that prevails in the canton of Martigues in Provence, extracted from a French letter of Dr. Joannis, a physician at Aix, and communicated to the society by Dr. Clephane. This distemper first shews itself in a swelling of the calves of the legs, extending from the toe to the knee. The veins become varicous, the skin is roughened with thick scales, and studded with schirrous tubercles. In a little time the face, arms, and hands, are affected in the same manner. The patient continues sometimes for whole years in this condition, then the voice grows hoarse, an ulcer takes possession of the throat, and commits terrible ravages on the palate and inward parts of the nose. The gums are corroded, the teeth carious, the countenance livid, and the breath intolerable. The tubercles crack, become ulcerous, and discharge an ash-coloured matter, ferous and fetid. The bones are foul, and exfoliate. Some lose their fingers and toes: they are seized with a fever, and their per-

spiration stinks abominably: then they fall into a marasmus and die. The disease is communicated from father to son till the fourth generation. A leper does not infect his wife, even tho' she bears children, who are afterwards infected with the distemper. He has a great propensity to venery. The people of the country say the disease is sometimes produced by a fright: they likewise impute it to the practice of eating fish half boiled in sea-water. Sweeteners, diluents, attenuants, sudorifics, antiscorbutics, mercurials, sulphur, viper broths, and whey, had been prescribed with little or no success. At present the physician palliates the violence of the disease, by prescribing a mild and moist diet, which protracts their fate, and helps to make their lives supportable. This account is concluded with two cures, in which the first appearance of the leprosy seems to have been owing to a fright: tho' Dr. Joannis reasonably supposes that the fright only brings forth the disease, when the seeds of it are already in the constitution.

The 20th article is an extract of a letter from Cadwallader Colden, Esq; of New York, to Dr. Fothergill, concerning the throat distemper. This gentleman, who formerly practised medicine, traces the progress of the disease from its first appearance in America, at Kingston in New England, about the year 1735, through all the colonies of North America. Children and young people only were subject to it in general. The poor were more liable to it than those who lived well, especially people of a scorbutic habit, who fed on pork, or lived in low moist grounds. The pulse is low, frequent, and irregular, the skin moist, the countenance dejected, the spirits low, the tongue and fauces furred as far back as the tonsils, which are swelled, and exhibit white specks. These being thrown off in tough, cream-coloured sloughs, the tonsils appear deeply pitted and corroded, and the sloughs are soon renewed. In a word, this is the distemper so distinctly described and judiciously treated in a pamphlet that was published some years ago by the learned and ingenious Dr. Fothergill. Mr. Colden justly observes, that all evacuations, after the disease has continued some time, are destructive. He followed a method of cure which had been successfully used by Dr. Douglas of Boston. He confined the patient to bed, in a moderate warmth, and kept up a free perspiration by means of gentle diaphoretics, such as sage-tea, and a decoction of the serpentaria. This decoction, in which Sumach berries had been boiled, with a little alum dissolved in it, was used as a gargle; and the sores on the tonsils were frequently touched with the compound tincture of aloes mixed with honey. Mr. Colden proceeds to entertain us with a pretty piece of theory concerning the division of humours in the body, which we are not in a humour to repeat. Those are airy visions, which remain like castles in the clouds, until a new hypothesis puffs them away, and leaves not a wreck behind. Our author having sported in theory among the lymph and serum, makes a transition to ner-

vous



vous fevers, for the cure of which he recommends Madera wine from his own observation. He favours us with an account of some cases in which it was drank liberally with great success. We could recite some histories to confirm what he alledges, and will venture to pledge him in the recommendation of this medicine.

He concludes his long letter with arguments to prove, that inoculation for the small pox was practised by the negroes in Guinea before it was known to the Circassians.

The next case is that of a girl of thirteen, seized with uncommon nervous symptoms. Dr. Macaulay, who communicates it, gives us to understand, that, after having eaten a large cucumber, and drank a glass of water, she was seized with a giddiness, and this was succeeded by a nausea. In two days, her right hand and arm began to shake involuntarily; her sickness went off; but she retained no appetite for animal food. Her hand and elbow moved alternately, extremely quick, when she was asleep as well as when awake. When her arm was confined, the motion began in that on the other side. When both arms were restrained, her legs and thighs, and whole body, fell a moving. Upon confining the arm first affected, she was seized with a qualm, which went off with a start, and instantaneously the other arm began to move. Her nerves played a great many other gambols, which we have not room to rehearse. She was purged with *tinct. sac.* and *tinct. melampod.* and in the intervals took boluses of camphire twice a-day. Her arm was rubbed with a flesh brush, embrocated with the volatile liniment, and blistered, to no purpose. In fourteen days, her disease put on another shape. She was taken with a fainting-fit, which lasted half an hour. A fire breaking out in the mean time, she, upon recovering, was frightened into distraction, which ended in strong convulsions. She continued in fits a whole fortnight, with hardly any intermission. They grew stronger and stronger for the first three or four days: she became mischievous, endeavoured to strike and bite those who were near her. For some days the intervals were very short, and she was even then scarce rightly sensible. Afterwards she recovered her senses in the intervals, and told when the fits were coming on. These were attended with some odd symptoms. Her head was shaved and blistered. What sleep she enjoyed was the effect of opiates. As soon as she was in a condition to swallow medicines, she took boluses of cinnabar of antimony and castor, with a camphorated julep. At length the fits wore off, and she totally lost the use of her legs. Yet her appetite returned, and she recovered flesh and spirits. Stimulating things were applied to her legs and feet, together with the use of the flesh-brush. In time, however, the limbs retrieved their sense and motion, and nothing remained of her complaints, but a slight motion of her arm and hand, which likewise vanished in a strong spasmodic contraction of the muscles of her shoulder, fore-arm, and hand. This was supposed

owing to a violent cold, and yielded to an embrocation of camphorated spirits.

The next is a very long article by Dr. Pye, concerning the powers of ipecacuanha in very small doses. It appears by a long table, composed of names, ages, and doses, that two grains of this medicine have generally proved sufficiently emetic to answer the intention of the physician. He infers from the observations he has made, that it may be given with the utmost safety and success, from half a grain to four or six grains, to persons of every age, of either sex, in any stage of the disease, when emetics are indicated. His observations are illustrated by twelve cases, described with all their circumstances.

In the 23d article we find an account of a woman who slept in a very extraordinary manner, near Mons in Hainault. By Terence Brady, physician to his royal highness prince Charles of Lorraine. She slept four days, during which she took no nourishment; nor was it possible to rouse her by stimulating applications and tortures of various kinds: but her sleep commonly lasted from three o'clock in the morning till eight or nine at night. While she remained in this state, her pulse was natural; the surface of her body was warm, and in a gentle perspiration: her neck, arms, and legs, were stiff and insensible. This case is not so extraordinary as that of Samuel Childon of Tinsbury near Bath, who slept from the 17th of August to the end of January. *Vide Phil. Trans. N° 304, p. 2177.*

What follows is the case of a clergyman cured of an obstinate scorbutic humour in the legs, by the use of lime-water, after every other prescription had failed. He drank at the rate of three pints a day, for five months, used moderate exercise, and lived temperately.

Article 25. contains a description of two curious paralytic cases, in a letter from Dr. Russel at Aleppo, to Dr. John Fothergill at London. They began with successive fits of the apoplexy, that left an hemiplegia, under which the first patient laboured a whole year, and then it went off in consequence of the same kind of fits which seemed to have brought it on. The other was a man upwards of fourscore, who was seized with an apoplectic fit, which terminated in a hemiplegia. He recovered by degrees, so that in eight months he was able to walk without help, though he still dragged his foot: but, in two years after this recovery, he was attacked by another apoplectic fit, which carried him off in a few minutes.

The next article by Dr. Fothergill treats of the use of the cortex Peruvianus in scrophulous disorders, and may be looked upon as a reinforcement to the observations of Dr. Fordyce on the same subject. For children afflicted with strumous disorders in the eyes, he prescribed a spoonful of the decoction of the bark to be given three times a day, adding to each dose, from 6 to 10 drops of the  
bals,



*bals. polychrest.* in order to procure a laxative stool, when the patient was costive. In other cases, when the face was encrusted with scabs, he reinforced the decoction with a pill of one grain of calomel every other night. Sometimes in patients of a more advanced age, he enriched the dose of the decoction with forty drops of the *tinct. guaiac. volatilis*. ' Sometimes (*says he*) I give ' the calomel pills above mentioned with the decoction, especially ' if any symptoms of the worms appear, or if the case is attended ' with costiveness, and a discharge of acrimonious moisture on ' any part of the skin. But the bark is the remedy I think chiefly ' to be depended on; and the dose should be as much as the patient can be prevailed upon to take; providing with equal care ' against costiveness and its opposite. As I imagine the result of ' repeated observations will be more agreeable to your plan than ' a detail of particular cases, I shall conclude this narrative with ' remarking that I have given the bark, in cases similar to those ' above described, to children of different ages, to adults of both ' sexes, and in various conditions of life; and have found, that it ' may not only be given with great safety, but to manifest advantage, in many scrophulous complaints: inveterate ophthalmies ' generally yield to it: incipient glandular tumors are frequently ' resolved, and their farther progress stopped: swelled lips, cutaneous blotches arising from the like cause, are healed, and the ' tendency to a strumous habit corrected, by a proper use of the ' cortex Peruvianus.'

He proceeds to make some judicious observations on the digestive powers of the stomach, so far as they change the nature of salts and medicines; the attention which ought to be given to the circumstances of this organ in all chronic distempers; the nature of different bitters and astringents; the unjust prepossessions that were raised against the bark, with regard to its effects in glandular obstructions, and rheumatisms; and the prejudice done to the character of this drug, by its being indiscriminately given without regard to quality, and in too small proportion. He owns it will not succeed where the bones are affected, or where the scrophulous tumour is so situated as to be attended with much pain, as in the joints, or under the membranous covers of the muscles. He makes use of the following decoction. ' R Pulv. cort. Per. ʒi. coque ' in aq. puræ ʒii ad ʒbi. sub finem addendo rad. glycyrrh. incis. ʒss. ' colaturæ adde aq. nuc. M. ʒii. M. capiat coch. ii, iii, vel iv, cum ' tinct. guaiac. vol. gut. x, xx, ad lx usque, bis terve quotidie. ' The powder soon becomes extremely disagreeable to very young ' patients: and the extract, I think, is not so much to be depended upon, as may have been imagined. In making the extract, it is exposed to so much heat, as must have some effect ' upon its virtues, and perhaps not to their advantage: and in ' administering it, if great care is not taken to mix it intimately ' with a proper vehicle, or some very soluble substance, in weak ' bowels,

bowels, it often purges, and not only disappoints the prescriber, but injures the patient. A small quantity of the *cortex winteranus* added, gives the medicine a grateful warmth, and renders a quantity of compound water less necessary. And a little liquorice, a few raisins, gum arabic, or the like, added to the decoction before it is taken from the fire, by making the liquor viscid, enables it to suspend more of the fine particles of the bark, and thereby improves the efficacy of the medicine, and, at the same time, renders it less disagreeable.

The following article contains the history of an aneurism of the aorta, with some remarks on aneurisms in general, by Dr. William Hunter. The unhappy patient was one Isaac Bradwell, a stay-maker nine-and-thirty years of age; the distemper commenced about three years before his death, without any previous bruise or external injury, unless he had insensibly strained his breast by working hard at his business, which is severe labour. When the doctor was called, he found an oblong swelling between the cartilages of the second and third ribs of the right side. The integuments were sensibly raised two inches in length, about one inch and a half over, and about half an inch perpendicular in the most elevated middle point. The skin was not discoloured. The tumor was very hard, but would almost disappear when much pressed, and then it was painful. Its pulsation was strong, and perceptible even to the eye, and corresponded with the pulse in the wrist. From this time, till within a few months of his death, there was no alteration with respect to its colour or pulsation; but it increased in size so as scarcely to be covered by the expanded hand and fingers: and after it was become of a considerable size, it always felt solid and fleshy in some parts, and in others softer, as if containing a fluid; and never could be strongly pressed, without causing great pain.

From the first to the last, the symptoms were pretty much the same, *viz.* great pain in the part, which very commonly darted through to his right shoulder, (he expressed it, as if swords were struck through him) great anxiety and labour in his chest, difficult breathing, and, from time to time, a teasing cough, which raised or exasperated his other complaints. He never could sleep on his back, without waking suddenly with great pain and terror; nor could he lie on his right side, without much pain; so that he generally had most ease lying on his left side, or sitting up. He was sometimes extremely ill for two or three days together; and then he was desponding, and had all the terrors of death expressed in his countenance. Then he would be pretty easy for a while; and as sure as he had a little ease, he flattered himself he should do well. His pulse was always regular; but, for some months after I first saw him, I could feel none, neither in the temple nor arm, of the left side; and yet he was not sensible of any numbness, or want of strength in that arm. After this



this, the pulsation gradually returned in those parts, but was always weaker than in the right side.

The doctor gave it as his opinion, that it was an incurable aneurism of the aorta, and that he would probably die of its bursting, either outwardly or inwardly. He proposed that the man should be kept quiet, both in body and mind, guard against costiveness, take soft and quieting pectorals for his cough, and lose some blood from time to time, as the symptoms might require and his strength permit. He was afterwards admitted into St. George's hospital, where that method was pursued. Some months before he died, the most prominent part of the tumor became of a dead pale colour, and felt œdematous. The colour grew deeper and the softness increased, till about six weeks before he died, when there was evidently a fluid ready to burst through a thin deadened skin of the size of a shilling. In a day or two it broke, and discharged first a considerable quantity of water, and next a watery blood. This was easily restrained, but returned several times at some days interval; but the swelling was not diminished: the mortified skin became dry and horny; and, about a fortnight before his death, began to separate from the living. There was an oozing of blood from the fissure, and this daily increased as the fissure deepened. The day before he died, the mortified piece of skin was quite loose all round, but shewed evidently that it was united to a large fleshy substance or coagulum of blood which it covered, and which served as a plug to the orifice: for when the heart contracted itself, this plug was pushed outwards, and the aperture in the integuments was thereby dilated; and, during the systole of the artery, the plug retired inwards, and the opening in the skin became smaller; so that by alternate motions, like the sucker of a pump, it shewed distinctly the two motions of the heart and artery. I could not however, examine the case with attention in this state, it struck me with so much horror. For as it was not possible to know of what size the plug might be, or what inward stay or support it might have; so it appeared uncertain which stroke of the heart might be the last.

Next morning, the last of his life, it bled with some violence. The house-surgeon of St. George's hospital immediately applied flour and lint, with moderate pressure, and sent notice of this to Mr. Hawkins and to me, who had both desired to be informed of any accident that might happen. When I came, all was quiet again; the bleeding, though violent, had stopt immediately; and Mr. Hawkins had ordered a moderate bandage. He was in bed, and had eat his breakfast chearfully. I left him, and was got about fifty yards from the hospital, when a messenger overtook me, and told me he was dead. He had been seized with a cough, and, in turning himself in bed, the blood gushed out with such violence as to dash against the curtains and wall; and he died, not only without speaking, but without a sigh or groan.

‘ The coagula were gathered up from the floor and bed, and, among them, I found the largest, with the dry eschar of integuments upon it, which had been the plug that had stopped the bleeding for some time before he expired. I had leave from his wife, and from the physicians and surgeons of the hospital, to open the body, and was allowed time to do it with deliberation, and to make drawings of the principal appearances.

‘ The external tumor, which was now very much sunk and flaccid, being opened by a crucial incision, its cavity appeared smooth, wherever what remained of the coagulated blood was wiped off. The smooth lining of the bag seemed to be formed of the compacted cellular membrane. Round the bottom of the cavity, the substance of the cartilages of the second and third rib, and the eroded sternum, was without perichondrium and periosteum; but, in most places, the laminated coagula of blood stuck very close to them. These cartilages, and that bone, formed the edge or brim of an irregular passage, leading inwards to a large reservoir, which proved to be the dilated artery filled with blood, partly fluid, and partly grumous.’

The doctor has by figures explained the state of the artery and the contents of the thorax, as they were found after his death; and he proceeds to oblige the public with a series of remarks upon aneurisms, which denote the accuracy and judgment of that excellent anatomist; and which we heartily recommend to the perusal of all students in surgery. But, among all his observations, the most extraordinary is, that a surgeon actually proposed the operation to this miserable patient, who, as the doctor archly observes, was prevailed upon to reject the proposal, partly because it would be attended with some pain, and partly because he was told that he could not expect his life would be very comfortable, after the great artery was tied so near his heart\*.

The

\* Though we had resolved to take no notice of any criticism that might drop from the pens of other periodical critics, we cannot help observing that this article by Dr. Hunter, has been attacked and misrepresented in the most uncandid and malicious manner by the author of the Monthly Review for June. If this was a matter of taste, we should not pretend to dispute upon it, but leave the public to decide upon the merits of each opinion: but when truth has been notoriously violated, to serve the purposes of calumny or envy, we think it incumbent upon us to undeceive the public, and do justice to a gentleman who has distinguished himself in the world by his superior talents, candour and humanity.

The Reviewer says, that Dr. Hunter has not given us, in this case, the great criterion by which the true aneurism can alone be ascertained, viz. ‘ the sac consisting of strong annular muscular fibres, &c.’—So that though Dr. Hunter should find no such *annular muscular fibres* in the aneurism he dissected, he must notwithstanding contradict his own senses, from blind complaisance to other anatomists.—Nobody will doubt that



The twenty-eighth article is a letter from Dr. Fothergill to the medical society, concerning an astringent gum brought from Africa. It is hard, brittle, of a deep red colour, and opaque; it has no smell, but tastes gratefully astringent: great part of it dissolves

readily that Dr. Hunter is capable of examining the parts of a dead body; and no person, in his right wits would blame him, for not describing circumstances which he could not perceive.

The Reviewer is of opinion that the third species into which the doctor divides the aneurism, namely, that formed partly by dilatation and partly by rupture, cannot exist. 'For, so long as the tumour is confined within the artery (no matter whether this is the effect of a dilatation of all the coats, or of a wound, erosion, &c. of one) it is even by his own definition a true aneurism.'—What this critic means by a tumour confined within the artery, he best knows: we apprehend, he might with the same propriety say, a house is confined within its walls. This, however, we know, that Dr. Haller says he has frequently seen this species of aneurism; and whether Haller's assertion or the critic's opinion is to be preferred, the reader will decide.

The Reviewer by implication charges Dr. Hunter with ignorance, in saying Paulus was the author of the common division of aneurisms into true and false; and this notable critic affirms that Paulus literally transcribes Galen upon this subject: nay, he declares that *Ætius* admits of this division.—Now we will venture to affirm, in our turn, that neither Galen nor *Ætius* have made this division. Paulus indeed transcribes Galen upon this subject, but only with a view to tell us, he differed from him.—'This is Galen's account (says Paulus) but we distinguish aneurisms thus.'—Then he proceeds to his own division, describes the symptoms, and prescribes the cure proper to each species. This being the true state of the dispute, the candid reader will judge whether there is more malice or ignorance in the Reviewer's remark. He is here fairly caught in his own trap; and we should be glad to know through what hole or subterfuge he will make his escape. This candid gentleman, moreover, blames Dr. Hunter for recommending compression in aneurisms, before recourse is had to the operation; and in the very next paragraph accuses him of having adopted this method by the name of a *very great improvement* from Dr. Monro, without mentioning its author. So that while it was believed to be a suggestion of Dr. Hunter, our critic condemns it as a hazardous expedient; but, in the very next sentence, finding it was first advised by Dr. Monro, he extols it as a *very great improvement*.

This is such a flagrant instance of malevolence, contradiction, and absurdity, that we can hardly believe the person who wrote it was in his right senses. His last paragraph is of a piece with the rest of the criticism. 'We are not a little surprised (says he) that in remark the second, the doctor should treat two writers of the most distinguished abilities with great contempt.' These we understand by a note are Dr. Friend and Dr. Monro.—Let the reader pass sentence on the merits of this impeachment. Dr. Hunter's second remark consists of the following expressions: 'Paulus was the author of the division of aneurisms into two kinds; one by dilatation, and the other by rupture: he has used the very terms *inlargement* and *rupture*; has

readily in the mouth with somewhat of a mucilaginous sweetness. When coarsely powdered and thrown into water, about five or six parts in seven, dissolve and communicate a deep red colour, and a strong astringent taste to the water: most of what remains undissolved, appears to be resinous. It is distinguishable from dragon's blood by its astringent taste and solubility in water. It comes from Gambia in Guinea, bleeds from the bark of a tree, called *pau de sangue*, upon incision, and hardens to the consistence of gum. The doctor thinks this drug may be of singular service in particular habitual diarrhœas, fluor albus, immoderate menstrual discharges; and, in general, all such diseases as proceed from laxity and acrimony.

The twenty-ninth article relates to the cure of the *lues venerea* by the *mercurius corrosivus sublimatus*, communicated to a member of the medical society, by Abraham Gordon, surgeon-major to the third regiment of foot, commanded by Col. Howard. This method of cure was first brought into regular practice by the celebrated Van Swieten, and recommended to the regimental surgeons by Dr. Pringle. It consists in giving the corrosive sublimate dissolved in malt spirits, or in French brandy, in the proportion of one grain of the mercury to two ounces of the spirits. The dose was from a common spoonful or half an ounce to two spoonfuls twice a day, adjusting the quantity to the strength of the patient, and virulence of the disease. The operation was commonly by sweat, or urine. The patient was during the use of this medicine confined to low or spare diet, and drank plentifully of barley-water with a little milk, or some such diluting liquor.—Mr. Gordon

distinguished their symptoms, and has expressly laid down a different cure for each, extremely well adapted to the different nature of these two diseases.

This is the whole remark, *verbatim*: now, reader, determine whether Dr. Hunter has, in the article before you, treated Dr. Friend and Dr. Monro with contempt; and whether any thing could be more false and petulant than this unprovoked attack upon the character of Dr. Hunter. The Reviewer, with the same regard to candour, says, 'If he is not greatly mistaken it would be no difficult matter for a reader of tolerable erudition, to point out the several books from whence most of the doctor's remarks have been gleaned.' This is a low, venomous insinuation; if he had really thought the doctor a plagiarist, he would have spared no pains to detect him; for, even if he had not tolerable erudition himself, his virulence would have directed him to some hireling more equal to the task. We shall say nothing of his carping at the diction in which these medical observations are conveyed, but that we think it is generally clear, pointed, and concise; whereas, in our opinion, the critic's is harsh, dissonant, embarrassed, and in some places unintelligible. But, on this subject, we do not speak dogmatically; nor shall we pretend to employ the shafts of ridicule to which this egregious hypercritic has laid himself extremely open; because, we think, the affair required a serious discussion.



don obliges us with twenty cases, in which the medicine cured the most inveterate symptoms of the disease. Of about five and thirty men cured in that regiment, not one of them relapsed. The same method had been followed with the same success, by Mr. Boyd, surgeon to Col. Kingsley's regiment. The dose was increased occasionally to two spoonfuls twice a day; some were purged by it in the beginning, and some qualmish; but its chief operation was by sweating, and urine. The sores were washed two or three times a day, with the following lotion  $\mathcal{R}$  merc. dul.  $\mathfrak{z}$ i. pulv. e cerussa comp.  $\mathfrak{z}$ ii. aq. calcis  $\mathfrak{z}$ iv. m. In cases of violent inflammation the patients were bled before they began to take the medicine.

This account is corroborated by divers letters from surgeons of other regiments to Dr. Pringle, communicated to the society by Dr. Clephane; who assures them on the information of Dr. Pringle, that in upwards of sixty cases, the medicine had not failed above three or four times; and these were cases of a long standing: yet even they yielded to the solution, assisted by a strong decoction of the sarsaparilla. The letters are from Mr. Miller, surgeon to Wolfe's regiment; Mr. Hastie, surgeon to Skelton's; Mr. Davies, surgeon to Amherst's regiment; the afore-mentioned Mr. Boyd, and Mr. Barker surgeon to Lord Charles Hay's regiment.

The thirtieth article consists of experiments on mixing oils, resinous and pinguious substances with water, by means of a mucilage of gum arabic. They were made by Mr. James Bogle French, apothecary in London, at the desire of Dr. Fothergill, who has published them with his own remarks. That learned physician takes occasion to recommend a treatise intitled, *A new method for the improvement of the manufacture of drugs*; to which he owed the hint that gave rise to the experiments. He observes that he had some reason to believe amber was a vegetable resin, reduced by time and a vitriolic acid into the condition in which it now appears: that he imagined it was not impracticable to produce a substance resembling amber in many of its properties: that when he mixed a vegetable resin with a vitriolic acid, by the assistance of a mucilage, the mixture instantly yielded the fragrance of amber, sufficiently strong and distinct. In a word, he gives us to understand that expressed and essential oils, balsams, resins, gummi-resins, resinous tinctures, pinguious animal substances, by the means of a vegetable mucilage, are rendered to a certain degree miscible with water, and capable of being administered in this form, as speedily and effectually, as by means of the *vitellum ovi* the common medium which is apt to contract a dangerous degree of putrid rancidity. Amidst an inundation of medical books, by which the public has been lately overwhelmed, and which idle doctors indite so fast, that one would imagine they wrote for wagers, we can with safe consciences recommend this book as a judicious collection, that may really conduce to the improvement of medicine.

ART.

ART. IX. *The Ruins of Balbec.* Price 3*l.* 10*s.* in sheets.

THERE is not a stronger mark of the corruption and depravity of any state or kingdom, nor perhaps a more certain symptom of its approaching dissolution, than a visible contempt of the arts and sciences, with an universal coldness and neglect in regard to every branch of literature. We have too much reason to think from the love of indolence and pleasure, which distinguishes the age we live in, that this species of degeneracy is every day gaining ground upon us. Conquest in knowledge, as well as arms, seems to have changed sides, and gone over to our more vigilant and more successful rivals; genius languishes for want of encouragement, and learning slackens its activity, because disappointed of its reward. A few indeed of sentiments more refined, and spirits more exalted, still remain to support the credit and retrieve the character of a sinking nation, to prop up the decaying fabric of true taste, maintain the dignity of learning, and prevent the arts and sciences from falling into utter contempt and oblivion: and among these the gentlemen, to whom we are indebted for the ruins of Balbec and Palmyra, have distinguished themselves in a manner that will redound not only to their own honour, but to that of the whole nation: the uncommon pains which they took, the fatigues and dangers which they underwent in the search of these valuable remains of antiquity, were alone sufficient to recommend them to our esteem and admiration. If to this we add the value of the treasure which they brought home, the extraordinary accuracy of the drawings, the elegance of the plates, the exact explanation of them, together with the judicious observations of these learned travellers, we cannot refuse them that tribute of praise which they so highly deserve, and which is indeed but a poor reward for toil so indefatigable, discoveries so useful, taste and learning so well and so usefully united.

The ruins of Palmyra, our readers, all those at least among them who are not utter strangers to the world of literature, are already acquainted with: to these it is perhaps unnecessary to recommend the ruins of Balbec, which will afford them at least equal pleasure and satisfaction. The book is about the same size, the plates not quite so numerous, but several of them larger; so that upon the whole it contains rather more work, and must have required a greater expence in the engraving, which, in the opinion of many is better executed.

Prefixed to this valuable work we find a preliminary discourse, written by the ingenious Mr. Wood, which contains a plain and sensible account of the journey from Palmyra to Balbec, with some observations on the antient state of the latter.

From

\* The ruins of Palmyra contain 57 plates, those of Balbec but 46.



From this we learn, that these indefatigable travellers, thus nobly engaged in the service of the republic of letters, had no sooner satisfied their curiosity in the view of Palmyra, than they immediately set forward towards Balbec, on the 31st of March, 1751. They arrived in seven hours at Erfdale, taking their journey across the barren ridge of hills called Antilibanus, and proceeded the next day to Balbec in five hours and a half.

This city, formerly under the government of Damascus, and a few years since the residence of a Basba, was at this time commanded by an Aga, who preferring the more honourable title of Emir, which he had by birth, was called Emir Hassein: he paid the Grand Signor a hundred purfes annually. Balbec is situated upon a rising ground, near the N.E. extremity of the plain of Bocat, and immediately under Antilibanus, between Tripoli of Syria and Damascus, and about sixteen hours distance from each. The number of its inhabitants about five thousand. The present Balbec is, according to the opinion of these gentlemen, the antient Heliopolis of Cælosyria, sometimes called Heliopolis of Phœnicia, and generally distinguished from other antient cities of the same name by its vicinity to mount Libanus. The proper names \* Heliopolis and Balbec both referring, though in different languages, to the favourite idolatry of the place, *viz.* the worship of the sun, or Baal, which is put beyond all doubt by the only two inscriptions found there. The inhabitants of this country, Mahometans, Jews and Christians, all confidently believe that both Palmyra and Balbec were built by Solomon; that one of these must certainly be the tower of Libanon looking towards Damascus, mentioned in his writings, and which they suppose him to have built for the queen of Sheba, or Pharaoh's daughter. Our travellers, however, are rather of opinion that the Phœnicians might have erected those temples which are found in the ruins of Balbec, as that plain most probably made part of their territory; and suppose with Macrobius (see his Saturnal. lib. 1.) that Balbec or Heliopolis received her idolatry from the city of the same name in Egypt, which they practised with additional rites from Assyria. They observe, that with regard to Grecian history, there is no mention of these buildings from Alexander's conquest of this country to that of Pompey; for which reason they conclude them to be works of a later date. The Roman history, indeed, still remains for inquiry; but that Heliopolis was made a colony by Julius Cæsar is supported by no better authority than the reverses of some medals, in which it is called *Colonia Julia*. It is likewise supposed that Augustus sent veterans thither, because it is called on some coins *Colonia Julia Augusta*; and that those veterans were of the fifth and eighth legions, called the *legio Macedonica*, and the *legio Augusta*, is gathered from the reverse of a medal of Philip the elder,

\* Heliopolis, the city of the sun; and Balbec, the vale of Baal, or Balbeit, the house of Baal.

der, on which there is this legend, COL. HEL. LEG. V. MACED. VIII. AUG. colonia Heliopolitana V. Macedonica VIII. Augustæ.

From a medal of Augustus struck at Berytus, we also learn that part of the same legions was sent to that city; and as Strabo mentions two legions settled in this country by Agrippa, it has been concluded, upon the concurring testimony of those coins and this author, that the fifth and eighth legions were divided between Heliopolis and Berytus: and indeed it appears from the same passage in Strabo (lib. 16.) that the tract of lands extending from Berytus to Heliopolis, as far as the source of the Orontes, was allotted to those veterans.

Upon the reverse of a medal of Adrian, we find the legend, LEG. H. COL. H. which by some is read *Legio octava colonia Heliopolis*. However, were this conjecture more probable than it seems to be, we do not find the least reason to suppose that this emperor, though a great builder in the provinces, has any title to the honour of those works.

Lucian, a native of this country, who appears from some passages in his writings to have lived in the times of the Antonines and Commodus, mentions transiently (if the treatise on the Syrian goddess be his) a great and antient temple in Phœnicia, the rites of whose worship were brought from Heliopolis in Ægypt. This, from his short description, appears to be the temple of Balbec; but as nothing which our travellers saw standing can possibly be the remains of what in his time would have been called antient, they dare only conjecture that he wrote his treatise before the present temples were built.

Thus uncertain and unsatisfactory are all the opinions concerning antient Balbec, and the building of those superb structures the temples, part of which still remains, and which is allowed by our judicious travellers to be on the boldest plan they ever saw attempted in architecture. ‘Is it not then strange (*say they*) that the age, and undertaker of works in which solidity and duration have been so remarkably consulted, should be a matter of such obscurity?’

There is indeed one historical authority discovered with regard to the building of these temples, and that is, John of Antioch, surnamed Malala, who says (*See his Hist. Chron. lib. xi.*) that Ælius Antoninus Pius built a great temple to Jupiter, at Heliopolis near Libanus in Phœnicia, which was one of the wonders of the world.

On this single testimony depends all that our curious travellers have been able to gather concerning the greatest work of antiquity now remaining. They have therefore given this passage of Malala a fair and candid examination; the substance of which is as follows:

From the time of Pompey to that of Antoninus, no mention is made of these buildings in the Roman history, which has yet taken



ken notice of structures much less remarkable. The taste of the architecture in Balbec is like that of his time, though Julius Capitolinus, who wrote the life of this emperor, makes no mention of it. He was a writer however of no great esteem, and his history scarce deserves the name of one.

Vows in favour of Julia Domna and Caracalla are recorded in two \* inscriptions, copied from the pedestals of the columns of the great portico. (See Plate IV.)

The temple of Heliopolitan Jove is to be met with on ancient coins, as likewise on the reverse of a medal of Septimius Severus. On the reverse of a medal of Philip the elder, we find a temple which seems to belong to Heliopolis by the legend. COL. JVL. AVG. FEL. HEL. *Colonia Julia Augusta felix Heliopolitana.*

With all due deference to Mr. Wood and his fellow-travellers, we cannot see any thing in what is here advanced by him that can determine us to attribute, with a degree of certainty (according to Malala) the building of the famous temple at Heliopolis to Antoninus Pius. The two inscriptions seem indeed to favour this opinion: but, as Mr. Wood observes, it was common among the ancients for particular persons to contribute to public buildings, by executing some part at their private expence, and such benefactions were generally recorded by an inscription. The words *capita columnarum dum erant in muro inluminata*, imply the carving or finishing of the capital, which was generally done after the columns were fixed. All that Antoninus did therefore might be no more than this finishing, or perhaps repairing what might probably have been built many years before. To say the truth, we are still in the dark concerning these illustrious remains of antiquity, which, as these gentlemen have observed in their preface to Palmyra, is a very extraordinary circumstance, as it is the natural and common fate of cities to have their memory longer preserved than their ruins. Troy, Babylon, and Memphis, are now known only from books, while there is not a stone left to mark their situation: but here we have two instances of considerable towns outliving any account of them. Our curiosity about these

\* First inscription,

Magnis Diis Heliopolitanis, pro salute,  
Antonini Pii, felicitatis Augusti, & Juliae Augustae matris domini nostri  
castrorum senatus patriæ—  
—columnarum dum erant in muro inluminata sua pecunia ex  
voto libenti animo solvit.

Second inscription,

Magnis Diis Heliopolitanis,  
—orbis domini nostri Antonini Pii, felicitatis Augusti, & Juliae  
Augustae matris domini nostri castrorum—  
—toniniana capita columnarum dum erant in muro inluminata  
sua pecunia—

these places is rather raised by what we see than what we read, and Balbec and Palmyra are in a great measure left to tell their own story.

What Mr. Wood has remarked towards the end of his account of antient Balbec, concerning the worship of the sun, is equally elegant and ingenious; where he observes, that he discovered in many of the deviations from the true object of worship, something in the climate, soil, or situation of each country, which had great influence in establishing its particular mode of superstition.

Not only (*says he*) the extensive plains and unclouded sky; but the manner in which the inhabitants of this country live, have greatly contributed to direct their attention to those objects of their worship, the sun, moon, and stars. It has ever been a custom with them to pass the nights in summer upon the house-tops, which are made flat for this purpose, to enjoy the cool air, above the reach of gnats and vapours, without any other covering than the canopy of the heavens, which presents itself in different pleasing forms, upon every interruption of rest, when silence and solitude strongly dispose the mind to contemplation. No where could we discover in the face of the heavens more beauties, nor on the earth fewer, than in our night-travels through the deserts of Arabia, where it is impossible not to be struck with this contrast. A boundless dreary waste, without tree or water, mountain or valley, or the least variety of colours, offers a tedious sameness to the wearied traveller, who is agreeably relieved by looking up to that cheerful moving picture, which measures his time, directs his course, and lights up his way. The warm fancy of the Arab soon felt the transition from wild admiration to superstitious respect, and the passions were engaged before the judgment was consulted. However unconnected therefore this natural history of a country and its mythology may seem, their relation might bear a more minute examination, without running into wild conjectures. Should health and leisure permit us to give the public the more classical part of our travels through those countries, which are most remarkable, as the scenes of antient fable, we may illustrate by some instances what is here only hinted at.

This classical part of their travels, with the illustration of antient fable, will be a valuable acquisition to the learned world; and we heartily wish Mr. Wood health and leisure to produce it. In the mean time the ruins of Balbec will afford the lovers of art and *virtù* the highest satisfaction, as they will exhibit to him the finest remains of antient architecture perhaps now in the world. The drawings are extremely accurate, and the engraving excellent. The explanation of the plates is full and perfect. The gentlemen have made no observations or reflections on the merit of the buildings, but left that task to others; tho' none could, in our opinion, be more capable of performing it than themselves, who



who notwithstanding have given us no criticism on the faults or beauties, but, with a modesty always attendant on real merit, submitted the whole to the judgment of their readers. Mr. Wood, at the conclusion of his preliminary discourse, separates himself for a moment from his fellow-traveller, to do justice to the extraordinary merit of his friend; and informs us, that Mr. Dawkins, with the same generous spirit which had so indefatigably surmounted the various obstacles of their voyage, continued, during Mr. Wood's unavoidable absence, to protect the fruits of those labours which he had so cheerfully shared; and that he not only attended to the accuracy of the work, by having finished drawings made under his own eye by their draughtsman, from the sketches and measures he had taken on the spot, but had the engravings so far advanced as to be now ready for the public under their joint inspection.

When men of large and independent fortunes, like Mr. Dawkins, are at the same time possessed of extensive learning, taste, and abilities, how much honour does it reflect on their characters to expend that time and money, which others lavish away on trifles, in researches of this nature! And how fortunate was it for the republic of letters, that another, like Mr. Wood, could be found to accompany and assist him in them? Mr. Wood, we are very glad to hear, has, besides the great encouragement in this work, which he has already met with, had the good fortune since his return to find a most truly noble and illustrious patron, which is very rarely to be found in these days, and will therefore, we hope, have no reason to complain of labour unpaid, or merit unrewarded. Certain it is that the time hath been, when the editor of such works as the ruins of Palmyra and Balbec would not have stood in need of any private patron, after such distinguished services to the public.

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ART. X. *An essay towards a general history of feudal property in Great Britain.* By John Dalrymple, Esq; 8vo. Pr. 5s. Millar.

**N**O study is better calculated to enlarge the mind, and to fill it with generous ideas, than that of jurisprudence, considered in an extensive view, as connected with philosophy and history. Nor can there be a more agreeable or instructive spectacle, than the contemplation of laws in their progress thro' a state, from their first simple origin in the wants and necessities of men, to their alteration, refinement, or declension, from the fluctuating manners and more complicated interests of civilised society. To discover the proper clue, in order to trace this progress, and to point it out with accuracy and precision, should seem to require a more than ordinary share of discernment and good sense. With regard to the performance before us, which is an attempt to trace, from the earliest feudal

times, the great outlines of the laws which relate to land property in England and in Scotland, so far as they relate to a feudal origin, Mr. Dalrymple has acquitted himself very much to his honour. His production appears to be the result of great application and labour, under the conduct of superior judgment and penetration. His first chapter contains the history of the introduction of the feudal system into Great Britain; from whence we shall extract the following passage. 'The thought of distributing among a conquering people the lands they have conquered, and of annexing to the gift, a condition of military service, is in itself an exceeding simple one: accordingly we learn from history, it has been often reduced into practice, as among some of the Roman colonies on the confines of the Roman empire, among the Timariots in the Turkish empire, and among other nations. But there were peculiarities attending the conquests of the German nations, which never did attend those of any other conquering people; and without a peculiarity of cause, there never will be a peculiarity of effect.

'The Greek and Carthaginian colonies came from republics; if they did not preserve a dependence on their native country, they at least preserved a great connection with it: they went out in small bodies, and as such they formed themselves into republics. Equality among the citizens had been a rooted and political principle with them at home; it became now, from their situation, still more the natural and consistent principle of their union.

'The various conquests of Asia by Asiatics, have been made for one man, and not for a people; and therefore standing armies have always been kept up to secure them.

'In the conquest of Asia by Alexander, neither he nor his army fought for habitations, but for dominion and glory. That dominion was preserved by armies and cities, he and his successors were honoured with the names of the cities, and together with the ancient revenues of the state, reserved to themselves the military and political administration. The armies found a refuge in the cities for themselves and their plunder; but the ancient inhabitants preserved their land-property and their laws.

'The Hebrews in Canaan followed different principles of conquest; they extirpated the ancient inhabitants, instead of associating with them.

'The modern European colonies are kept in subjection, not only to their native country, but even sometimes to particular bodies of merchants in it. They are considered merely as instruments of commerce, and are therefore in general left to be regulated by the laws and police which chance to prevail in the different countries from which they are sent. Their principles of settlement are not determined by the natural circumstances of the settlement itself, but with the views with which they are settled.



‘ The Romans, who extended their empire farther than all  
 ‘ other nations, preserved their conquests too by colonies; but as  
 ‘ the members of them were for a long time taken from the dregs  
 ‘ of the people, they went out without any extensive subordination;  
 ‘ afterwards, when the soldiers constituted the colonies, and paid  
 ‘ military service in return for their lands, they had indeed a regu-  
 ‘ lar subordination; but then their connection with their native  
 ‘ country was not broken, and besides they were in continual dan-  
 ‘ ger from incursions of the enemy. In these circumstances, it  
 ‘ was not natural the possessions should be hereditary; for in the  
 ‘ succession to a vacant possession, bravery, where bravery was so  
 ‘ necessary, would be preferred to the relations of blood; nor  
 ‘ would the preference be complained of by men having connec-  
 ‘ tions with another country, and still considering Rome as the  
 ‘ seat of their fortunes. Accordingly none of the lands given un-  
 ‘ der the condition of military service, to the members of these co-  
 ‘ lonies, went in descent; a few given by the emperor Severus ex-  
 ‘ cepted, and which rather were ordered to descend, than in reality  
 ‘ ever descended to heirs.

‘ In almost all those various transmigrations, it is observable,  
 ‘ that the conquerors either conformed to the civil laws of the con-  
 ‘ quered people, if they left a people at all, reserving to them-  
 ‘ selves the political and military administration; or they retained  
 ‘ their own laws among themselves, leaving to the conquered  
 ‘ people the enjoyment of theirs. The reason was, a contrary re-  
 ‘ gulation would have been either impossible for them to compass,  
 ‘ or useless when compassed.

‘ On the other hand, in every one of those various circumstances,  
 ‘ the situation of the Germans was different. As there was no  
 ‘ general system of government in their own country, they had  
 ‘ been subjected in their various districts to that chieftain who could  
 ‘ do them most good or most hurt. When they issued abroad,  
 ‘ then, they went rather as a band of independent clans, than of  
 ‘ independent members, with a spirit of oligarchy, and not of  
 ‘ equality.—Simple both in their manners and in their views, they  
 ‘ could have no conception of a standing army, with the expence,  
 ‘ and discipline, and resources necessary to support it. On the  
 ‘ contrary, having quitted their own country in vast bodies from  
 ‘ necessity, and being in quest merely of a habitation, they took  
 ‘ up with the more simple thought, of spreading themselves all  
 ‘ over the country, among the ancient inhabitants.—As the na-  
 ‘ tions they conquered were more numerous, so were they likewise  
 ‘ more polished, and expert in arts than themselves; therefore they  
 ‘ durst not put such nations to the sword.—Unacquainted even  
 ‘ with commerce itself, they were still more unacquainted with the  
 ‘ refinement of being made the instruments of it to others.—As  
 ‘ long as the most distant views to their native country remained,  
 ‘ and as long as continual danger obliged them to be ready for con-  
 ‘ tinual defence, the possessions, it is true, upon the death of te-

‘nants, could not regularly descend to their heirs, who perhaps were not able to defend them, but would be given to those in general who appeared the most likely to be able to do so; yet when in course of time that connection came entirely to cease, and this bravery was not so continually necessary, then the possessions we are speaking of, in contradiction to all others in the history of the world, which have any resemblance to feudal ones, became hereditary.—Being an army, these conquerors naturally fell into a subordination in their settlement: valiant, their genius as well as situation led them to institutions, which made it an obligation upon almost the whole body to be ready at a military call; and that settlement, subordination, and obligation to military service carried in themselves a system of laws, without the plan of a legislator, which, however the laws of the conquered people might for some time subsist, could not in the end but swallow up all the laws of all the countries where it came.

‘Naturally fond of the institutions of our ancestors, we are apt to make this system the result of the most consummate political prudence and refinement. But, regular and extensive as the fabric became, it was no more originally than the very natural consequence of very natural causes. In inventing other causes, we only deceive ourselves, by carrying the refined ideas of our own age into ages too simple to be capable of forming them.’

The remaining part of this valuable performance contains the history of tenures, of alienation, of entails, of succession, of conveyances, of jurisdictions, and of the constitution of parliament. It hath been a great loss, Mr. Dalrymple very justly observes, both to history and law, that they have too little contributed their mutual aids to each other. Lawyers themselves seldom give deductions of laws, and historians seldom meddle with laws at all, even those which give occasion for the constitution of a state, and on which, more than on battles and negotiations, the fate of it doth often turn. To confirm this observation, and to shew how necessary to an historian a thorough acquaintance with law-subjects is, before he can be qualified to judge properly of political questions, we shall transcribe sect. 2. from our author’s history of succession, in which he treats of the progress of succession in the collateral line. ‘Such being the progress of succession and representation in the descending line, a still further progress, and from the same causes, may be seen extending itself in the other lines of succession.’

‘Originally, none could succeed in the fief, except those who were specified in the original grant; now, as anciently, the interest of the lord in the fief, was greater than that of the vassal; and it was a favour to this last, to give him a fief, for which he paid only, what in a military age was no great trouble to him, to wit, his personal service; he was well contented to get it to him-  
self



self and his posterity; but thought not of asking the succession to his collaterals.

Nor is it any objection to this doctrine, that collaterals are observed, in the earliest fiefs, to have sometimes succeeded; for this their succession was not in a fief acquired by the vassal himself, but only *in feudo paterno*; and in a fief of this last kind, the successor took as descendent to the original vassal, and thereby *nomine* in the original grant, but not at all as collateral to the last vassal. Accordingly, in a law in the books of the fiefs, the distinction between the succession to the one of these fiefs, and that to the other, is laid down: *Frater fratri sine legitimo hærede defuncto, in beneficio, quod eorum patris fuit, succedat. Sin autem unus ex fratribus a domino feudum acceperit, eo defuncto, sine legitimo hærede, frater ejus in feudum non succedit.* And by the promulgation of that law, it appears, that even in *feudis paternis*, the real quality of descendent to the original vassal, had been so far forgot, in the seeming quality of collateral to the last one, that a public law was necessary to overcome the difficulty which was made of receiving such real descendent.

By degrees, however, the collateral succession gained ground. It first took place in brothers only, afterwards it was extended to the father's brother, and, in process of time, to the collateral line, even to the seventh degree. Craig relates, that whether this succession was extended beyond that degree, was so much a doubt, as to be the subject of two contests before courts, in his time. But in the end, when wars came to be waged in Europe by standing armies, and not by vassals; when trade, manufactures, and money, introduced luxury; when by that luxury the great lords were impoverished, and that money in the hands of those who had been formerly their slaves, it then became of little consequence to the lord, who was the vassal in fief; and therefore he gave it to him who was willing to advance most money for the grant; the vassal, on his part again, as he gave value for that grant, was not contented with a right of succession to his descending, but insisted it should go likewise to his collateral line.

Thus by practice, without a public law, it crept into the law of Great Britain, as well as into that of other European nations; that not only in *feudis paternis*, but even in fiefs which a man had purchased himself, his collaterals *in infinitum*, as well as his descendants *in infinitum*, should succeed.

When collateral succession came to take place, it will readily occur, that difficulties could not but speedily arise in law concerning the succession of a middle brother dying without children, and leaving an elder and younger brother alive.

When that happened, the law took the following course, and for the following reasons:

‘ If the fief had come by descent, it went to the younger brother; if it was a purchase, it went to the elder.

‘ A fief of the nature of the first kind could be in a middle brother only, in consequence of a grant from his ancestor, or in consequence of a grant from his elder brother, which last was in construction of law deemed to be a *feudum paternum*. In either of these cases, the elder brother behoved to be either superior, or heir in the superiority, and the middle brother behoved to be vassal; but the feudal law had a peculiar aversion at joining again the property and superiority in one person, when they had been once disjoined. The whole system was built on the distinct rights of superior and vassal, and the blending these two characters in one person appeared to be the blending of contrary qualities together.

‘ As conquest, on the contrary, had come to the middle brother from a stranger, when the law allowed the succession of such a fief to go to the elder brother, there was no danger of the junction of the property and superiority in one person; the stranger remained superior, whoever was the heir.

‘ So stood the law, and such was the distinction, in the time of the *Regiam Majestatem*, and in the time of Glanville.

‘ In England, the relations of superior and vassal having been long ago lost, the danger of uniting these two characters in one person no longer subsists; and therefore the exclusion of the elder brother in *feudo paterno*, has for many ages been forgot, perhaps ever since the end of the reign of Edward I.

‘ In Scotland, on the contrary, where the distinction between superior and vassal is still formally kept up, and where many maxims, however unnecessary in reality, yet founded upon the form of that distinction, are still kept up, the law handed down through the writings of our lawyers, remains the same. The distinction between the heir of line, and the heir of conquest, is as perfect at this day in Scotland, as it was five hundred years ago. And therefore at present, if a middle brother should die, possessed of an estate which had come to him by descent, and should have a son who made afterward a purchase, upon the death of this son without issue or brothers, the succession would split; his younger uncle would take what had come by descent, or, as it is called in Scotland, the heritage; and his elder uncle would take what had come by purchase, or, as it is called in Scotland, the conquest.

‘ The right of representation was longer in being introduced in the collateral, than in the descending line, and consequently took longer time to be firmly established in that line than in the other.

‘ In the original law of nature, representation must be unknown; those who are nearest in blood to a man, will be conceived to be nearest connected with him. Afterwards, it is observed



‘ served to be a hardship, that children bred up in a rank suitable  
 ‘ to that of their father, and with a prospect of succeeding to his  
 ‘ rights, should be cut off at once from that rank, and that pro-  
 ‘ spect; it comes to be observed as a farther hardship, that a wo-  
 ‘ man who has married one seemingly a match for her, should by  
 ‘ his untimely death lose not only her husband, but see her chil-  
 ‘ dren reduced to beggary.

‘ These considerations bring in the right of representation in the  
 ‘ descending, but the same considerations do not occur in the col-  
 ‘ lateral line. The children of a brother or cousin have not the  
 ‘ prospect of succeeding to their uncle’s or cousin’s estates, because  
 ‘ it is always to be supposed every man is to have children of his  
 ‘ own; it is no hardship upon them, then, to be removed by an-  
 ‘ other uncle, or another cousin, from a succession to which they  
 ‘ could have no views.

‘ Thus representation must be late of coming unto the collateral  
 ‘ line; and when it comes in, it does so rather by analogy of the  
 ‘ other, than by principles of its own.

‘ The steps by which, in private successions, it came into the  
 ‘ collateral line in Great Britain, or even in any other country in  
 ‘ Europe, are extremely difficult to be traced, and perhaps are not  
 ‘ very certain when they are traced; therefore we must supply them  
 ‘ by the progress of the same representation in public successions.

‘ In these last successions, it is plain, that representation was  
 ‘ originally unknown. In the histories of modern Europe, for a  
 ‘ long tract of time, where-ever a succession opens to collaterals,  
 ‘ the nearest of blood takes, to the exclusion of representation.

‘ In the time of Edward I. when representation in the descend-  
 ‘ ing line was tolerably established throughout Europe, the point  
 ‘ was so doubtful in the collateral line, that, upon the death of  
 ‘ Margaret of Norway, and the dispute for her succession, be-  
 ‘ tween her cousins Bruce and Baliol, not only the eighty Scotch  
 ‘ commissioners, named by the candidates, and the twenty-four  
 ‘ English, named by king Edward, were long doubtful, but all  
 ‘ Europe was doubtful, which side should prevail. The precise  
 ‘ question, in the end put by the king to the commissioners, and  
 ‘ there was none other insisted upon in the dispute, was, *Whether*  
 ‘ *the more remote by one degree in succession, coming from the eldest sister,*  
 ‘ *ought to exclude the nearer by a degree, coming from the second sister?*

‘ And on the answer, importing, that representation should take  
 ‘ place, judgment was given for Baliol.

‘ The Scotch writers of those days are positive this judgment was  
 ‘ wrong; the English writers of those days are as positive that  
 ‘ it was right. These different sentiments are reconcileable. In  
 ‘ England, at that time, representation in collateral succession was  
 ‘ beginning to take place, and this their advance the English made  
 ‘ the measure of their opinion: the Scotch, on the other hand, at  
 ‘ the same period had not arrived the same length. This species

‘ of

of representation was unknown to them; and therefore they disapproved of the judgment.

Solemn as this decision was, yet even in England, a century afterward, the right of representation in this line was so far from being compleat, that it was the same doubt, which in the disputes between the houses of York and Lancaster, laid that kingdom for ages in blood. On the abdication of Richard II. the two persons standing in the right of the crown, were his two cousins, the duke of Lancaster, grandson of John of Gaunt, who was fourth son to Edward III. and the earl of March, great grandson to Lionel, duke of Clarence, who was third son to the same prince. It was in the right of these persons, and therefore, in consequence of the doubt, whether representation in collateral succession should take place, that all the miseries attending that competition, ensued.

Yea, even in much later times, and when the growth of law was much firmer, it was on the same ground, that upon the death of Henry III. of France, the league set up the cardinal of Bourbon as heir to the crown, in opposition to his nephew the king of Navarre. This last prince was son of the elder branch to the cardinal, but the cardinal being one step nearer to the common stock, it was asserted, that nearness of blood, and not representation, took place in collateral succession.

For many ages, it has now been fixed in private successions, that representation in the collateral line shall take place; and although of late in Europe, there has been little dispute in public successions, to give room for either principle to prevail, yet the example of those private successions, and the now riveted notions of mankind, in favour of representation, will probably prevent it from being ever made again the subject of a dispute.

These notions in favour of representation, both in the descending and collateral lines, are now so strong, that we are apt to term rebels and usurpers, those who ever contested them. History and law will convince us of our error; these will exhibit to us many thousands of our ancestors dying in the field, in a prison, or on a scaffold, for rights which once were, though we, measuring every thing by our present notions, superficially imagine they could never exist.

This is sufficient to give the reader an idea of this performance; in which it appears to us, that our author's learning and sagacity have enabled him to throw many new lights upon the subjects of which he treats, while his judgment and good sense have preserved him from all trifling and false refinement.

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ART. XI. *A new compendious Treatise of Farriery; wherein are set forth in a plain, familiar, and natural manner, the disorders incident to horses, and their respective cures; together with some interesting observations*



*servations on bleeding, purging, exercise, &c.* By John Wood, late groom to the King of Sardinia, and at present groom to the Right Hon. the Earl of Rochford. 8vo. Pr. 5s. Brindley.

**H**OW far this performance is preferable to all other preceding treatises on the same subject, we do not pretend to determine, as we have not employed much attention in the study of farriery: but, Mr. Wood seems in general to understand the branch of medicine, which he professes to exercise. He tells us very gravely, in his preface, that Hippocrates and the antient physicians were very sparing of their prescriptions; that *medicus naturæ minister* was their constant motto, which Mr. Wood has adopted, declaring that in the cure of diseased horses he adheres strictly to a Hippocratical practice. He desires those who are desirous of being let in farther to the secret of the component parts of the animal body, and consequently that of a horse, to consult only Mr. Taupe; and as he himself has been very superficial, in regard of the symptoms, a recourse (he says) may be had to the ingenious Mr. Bartlet.

The introduction contains an anatomical and physiological account of a horse, and seems to be transcribed, if not translated from some superficial system of anatomy, which the transcriber or translator did not well understand. ‘All the bones of the body’ (says he) ‘except the teeth, and those that are articulate to one another are covered with the *periosteum*.’ We should be glad to know all those bones of a horse, which are neither teeth, nor articulated to one another. This remark puts us in mind of the Welshman, who, when his friend wanted to borrow money of him, pulled out forty shillings, and declared that he should have all that he had, except one pound nineteen.—Mr. Wood gives us to understand, that ‘the use of the sweet-bread is to dilute the chyle with the liquor that is separated in the glands of the guts.’ He might as well have said, that the use of the kidneys was to dilute the urine separated in the spleen. We shall not cavil at his saying, ‘the use of the liver is to separate the gall from the blood, which on that account, may be properly called a gland;’ because we suppose this is no more than a *lapsus calami*; though an unlearned reader will take it for granted, by the construction of this sentence, that *the blood may be properly called a gland.*

The introduction concludes with some natural observations on *bleeding, purging, exercise, &c.* In the course of these, Mr. Wood is transported with a laudable indignation against ‘those of his fraternity, who set about purging their horses at rated and stated times, without the least rational motive whatever.’ ‘The truth is (continues this ingenious leech) their skulls are full of conundrums, and loaded with a stupidity, that will admit of no discharge.’—We wish there was no reason to extend this reflection to the more dignified side of the faculty.

Mr.

Mr. Wood begins his treatise with a very curious and capital observation, that without this notice might have slipped the ordinary reader. ‘As the head is the predominant part of an animal composition (*says he*) I shall begin with treating on the diseases incident to that organ of the body.’ Then he proceeds to prescribe a cure of the *staggers, the strangles, the wivres, the glanders*, which (as he observes) are diseases sufficiently known. In treating fevers, he recommends sweating by external application. ‘In the year 1748 (*says he*) I had the honour of being recommended by Sir John Ligonier, in whose service I was, to be groom to the King of Sardinia. In September I set out from Holland, in order to pass through Germany, with the king’s horses. On my arrival at Luxembourg, I had one of the horses taken ill with a fever. I began with bleeding, and cooling laxative clysters, and administered the antimonial fever-powder. There came now a great stiffness on the external muscles of his breast and shoulders, insomuch that he was incapable of putting his legs from under him, or of lying down, though not in the least affected with a pleurisy. I soon got the better of the fever, and my greatest solicitude now was how to remove this stiffness. Having fourteen horses under my care, and a long way to travel, I considered the great expences and other inconveniences I must have been necessarily subjected to from lying still, and being for any time retarded in my march. These reflections put me on thinking of every thing, that might carry with it the greatest probability of a speedy relief.

‘Physick, I knew, would only weaken him more; and, as for rowels, though they might have been of service, those would have been too tedious. At last I thought of raising a sweat by outward application; and calling to mind the manner of the running-grooms sweating themselves in order to waste for riding, I resolved to try immediately the following expedient. I covered the horse all over with blankets, letting them be open under his belly, and got three little earthen pots, and, filling them with spirits of wine, set them on the ground under his belly: and, to divide the flames and make them ascend more gradually, I placed a square piece of matting not too thick betwixt the horse and the flames. The matting rested upon four short sticks nailed at each corner. I soon raised a laudable sweat, and kept it up for above three quarters of an hour. I then removed the spirits, and took off the wet blankets, and kept the horse warm that day and the following night; and on the next morning I found the stiffness intirely removed, and a free liberty of motion restored to all the limbs: so that I had no farther obstruction to the prosecution of my journey, and accordingly set off without delay. In the year 1754, on going through France to the same place, with the earl of Rochford’s and the king’s horses, at Baboun I had one of the horses seized with a fever of the malignant kind, attended  
‘with



• with a pleurisy. I was under a necessity of bleeding him eight  
• times in four days. I also put in two rowels, one on each side  
• of his breast, administred cooling, laxative clysters, and gave him  
• the mixture of linseed-oil, honey, and nitre, and sometimes added  
• nitre to his clysters. In three days time his fever abated, and he  
• began to discharge a sharp, corrosive matter by the nose, that  
• was sometimes yellow, sometimes green, and now and then tinged  
• with blood. I then omitted the mixture, and gave him thrice a  
• day two drams of the antimonial fever-preparation, and washed  
• it down with a decoction of scordium and valerian-root; and, as  
• he was very restless, I added some flowers of red corn-poppies.  
• This method I found took effect. For, in four days time I pro-  
• ceeded on my journey, though he had eat nothing for eight days,  
• but what I had thrown down by the horn. I only marched six  
• or seven miles a day, till he had recovered strength, which, in-  
• deed, daily increased. And now I thought all danger over. But  
• I had not gone above two hundred miles before he was took with  
• a contraction of his muscles, so that he could not move out of  
• the stable; and at the same time there appeared a great many  
• small lumps all over his body. Now, as such good success at-  
• tended my sweating the horse before-mentioned, I immediately  
• went to work in the same manner with this; and the next  
• morning gave him a pretty large dose of my diuretic balls, on  
• purpose to break the viscid cohesion of the blood, and to render  
• it more fit for circulation. My intention was entirely answered;  
• and accordingly I was enabled to proceed on my journey, the  
• horse getting up as well as any of the rest. In Savoy I was  
• obliged to have recourse to the same method of sweating, which  
• on that occasion equally succeeded.

The prescriptions in general seem to be well chosen, and con-  
firmed in the course of an extensive practice. The second part  
turns on the chirurgical part of practice, and treats of *strains*,  
*wind-galls*, *blood-spavins* and *hog-spavins*, *bone-spavins*, *mallenders*, *sal-*  
*lenders*, *ring-bones*, *wounds*, *ulcers*, &c. But, we find no method of  
cure for *fractured bones*, *luxations*, and little or nothing said of *gun-*  
*shot wounds*. In these articles we apprehend the treatise is defect-  
ive; for, we cannot assent to the opinion of those who think such  
maladies in horses incurable. There is an appendix containing  
a short *materia medica*, consisting of such simples as are used in the  
medicine of horses. They seem to be well chosen, and concisely  
described; and some of the *recipes* that follow are well adapted.  
For example, the following balls for the gravel.

• Take six ounces of Strasbourg turpentine; dissolve it in the  
• yolks of three or four eggs; then add to it the seeds of grom-  
• well, burdock and tansey, of each three ounces, two ounces of  
• the syrup of marshmallows, and make the whole up into balls  
• with flower. Let a ball of this composition of about the bigness  
• of a hen's egg be given twice a day, and washed down with a  
• decoction

‘ decoction of mallows. This will effectually force away any fabulous matter, that may have made a lodgment in the urinary passages; but great care and circumspection are necessary in the administration of it. For where the least degree of inflammation is attendant on the obstructed part, in this case it is adviseable to accompany the use of these balls with manna, oils, and emollient clysters, in order to relax the vessels, and by that means procure a less painful exit for the offending matter.’

The following composition is recommended as an established remedy for coughs and asthmatic affections.

‘ Take juniper-berries, aniseeds, fœnugreek-seeds, and cummin-seeds, of each two ounces; four ounces of elecampane-root, half a pound of the flowers of sulphur, honey and tar of each four ounces, two ounces of garlick, six ounces of cold-drawn linseed-oil, an ounce of balsam of sulphur prepared with oil of turpentine, and three or four ounces of syrup of horehound. Make these into balls with powder of liquorice.’

The jaundice, or yellows, will generally yield to this ball given to a horse every other day in the morning fasting, until the symptoms abate. A ball for the jaundice :

‘ Take four drams and a half of Barbadoes aloes, six drams of woodlice, an ounce of the best hard-soap, two drams of depurated salt-petre, cochineal and camphire, of each a dram; two scruples of opium, and forty drops of oil of aniseeds. With a sufficient quantity of syrup of marshmallows make these ingredients into a ball.’

On the whole, we have such a good opinion of this performance, that we firmly believe many doctors are let loose upon the lives of their fellow-creatures, without one half of Mr. Wood’s learning, judgment and experience.

ART. XII. *Mr. Hervey’s contemplations on a flower-garden; done into blank verse (after the manner of Dr. Young). By T. Newcomb, M.A.* 8vo. Pr. 1s. 6d. Rivington and Fletcher.

THE ingenious Mr. Newcomb, who has already favoured the public with an elegant version of Mr. Hervey’s contemplation on night, (see our Review for February, p. 118.) hath at length wandered with his muse into the *flower-garden*; from whence he has transplanted some of its choicest ornaments into his own poetical parterre, leaving untouched \* those parts which could not so well

\* Mr. Newcomb, for instance, has omitted Mr. Hervey’s application of what he had said concerning the *sun*, to *Jesus Christ the sun of righteousness*, and the resemblance of his *beams* to *divine revelation*. His comparison of the *dew* to the *Holy Ghost*; of the variety of *tulips*, to the *differences* between *Protestant Christians*. His similitude of *anger*



well bear a change of soil. There are in this performance of Mr. Newcomb's, as well as in that which preceded it, many marks of taste and genius, with great happiness of expression in the descriptive parts of the poem; tho' the contemplation before us is by no means equal to that on night, in images, sentiment, or diction. Mr. N——, however, has (\*except in a very few places) done justice to his original, and in many far excelled it.

There is something very picturesque, in the scene exhibited to us in the beginning of the poem.

' Now from his orient throne the golden sun  
' Had pour'd his morning beam, and shed a light,  
' To beautify the world's reviving scenes.  
' Soft was the dewy air, the breathing gale  
' Refreshing nature's face, rich, beauteous, gay.  
' Scarce yet awake the poring eye of care  
' Unseals its lid, while riot's giddy head  
' Was just reclin'd upon its couch of down.  
' Still and serene creation's ample round,  
' While each fair object opening with the morn,  
' Joins to beget tranquillity of mind,  
' The heart-felt joy and serious thought inspires.'

The moral reflection, which follows, is just and natural.

' Shall man be lost, stretch'd on his bed of down,  
' Waste all his solemn hours in thoughtless ease,  
' While, mounted on his golden car, the sun  
' Travels from world to world in haste to bear  
' His maker's dread commands, and all the choir  
' Of feather'd minstrels join their grateful songs  
' To celebrate their great creator's praise.  
' Oh! heighten the sweet harmony, proud man,  
' Of these melodious tribes, and add the strains  
' Of warm devotion to their tuneful lays;  
' Improve the gifts of heaven, and, ah! refine  
' Its balmy odours with a breath of praise.'

Mr.

to a prickly thorn, peevishness to a stinging nettle, &c. with some others, which, for reasons sufficiently obvious, would not have admitted of poetical ornament.

\* Such as the following:

What sweets are these, &c. p. 25. See p. 152, of Mr. Hervey.  
How often have I felt, &c. p. 30. See p. 163, of Mr. Hervey.  
How shou'd the human heart, &c. p. 50. See p. 188, of Mr. Hervey.  
One substance yet, &c. p. 65. See p. 216, of Mr. Hervey.

In these, with a few others, Mr. Newcomb seems to us inferior to his original Mr. Hervey; in the last of them our poet is remarkably deficient, as he has omitted one of the prettiest moral reflections in Mr. Hervey's whole work.

Mr. Newcomb's description of the sun, is grand and poetical.

— ' See the radiant sun,  
 ' High in his bright pavillion thron'd, begins  
 ' His rapid progress from the eastern sky,  
 ' Flaming from world to world, 'till now his beams  
 ' Are quench'd and lost beneath the western main.  
 ' The clouds, those floating curtains that obscure  
 ' His light a-while, drove backward by his rays,  
 ' As he approaches near their skirts, retire:  
 ' Glorious, and with superior brightness crown'd,  
 ' See with what awful majesty he treads  
 ' Heaven's crystal floor, and, with a bridegroom's pride,  
 ' Gaily refulgent pours from out his urn  
 ' A golden vivid flood of light and day.'

Mr. *Hervey*, after describing the orchard, cries out,

' Breathe soft, ye winds! O, spare the tender fruitage, ye furly  
 ' blasts! let the pear-tree suckle her juicy progeny; till they drop  
 ' into our hands, and dissolve in our mouths. Let the plum hang  
 ' unmolested upon her boughs; till she fatten her delicious flesh,  
 ' and cloud her polished skin with blue. And, as for the apples,  
 ' that staple commodity of our orchards, let no injurious shocks  
 ' precipitate them immaturely to the ground; till revolving fans  
 ' have tinged them with a ruddy complexion, and concocted them  
 ' into an exquisite flavour.'

This, we may observe, has an odd appearance in Mr. *Hervey*; it is a wild motley kind of language, and may justly be ranked with what Pope calls, 'prose run mad.' Mr *Newcomb* has greatly soften'd and improved it, in the following lines:

— ' Breathe, ye gentle winds,  
 ' Blow soft, ye western gales, in pity guard  
 ' The tender offspring from the killing storm  
 ' Pour'd from the angry north. Oh! teach the pear  
 ' To nurse its juicy progeny, till time  
 ' Has mellow'd its rich pulp to the pleas'd taste,  
 ' How grateful when dissolving as we eat!  
 ' Let the plum hang unruffled on its bough,  
 ' And nourish her delicious fruit a while,  
 ' Till, ripen'd, by the genial sun, her skin  
 ' Is finely clouded o'er with glossy blue.  
 ' O! let no rugged shocks, no furious blast,  
 ' Disturb or rock our orchards, richly hung  
 ' With yellow treasures, no injurious wind  
 ' Precipitate their burden to the ground,  
 ' Before the autumn's kindly warmth has giv'n  
 ' Their juices a rich flavour, and the sun  
 ' Ting'd o'er their blushing sides with streaks of gold.'

When



When Mr. *Hervy* gets into his *olitory*, he is in high rapture.

‘What a fund of choice accommodations is here! what a source of wholesome dainties! and all, for the enjoyment of man. Why does the parsley, with her frizzled locks, shag the border; or why the celery, with her whitening arms, perforate the mold; but to render his soups savoury? the asparagus shoots its tapering stems; to offer him the first-fruits of the season; and the artichoke spreads its turgid top, to give him a treat of vegetable marrow.’

This is liable to the same objection as the passage above quoted; it is strangely turgid and bombastic. Mr. *Newcomb*’s dress is much more becoming:

———— ‘All this is made for man,  
 ‘His table to adorn, and grace his board  
 ‘With guiltless, grateful luxury.— For thee  
 ‘The parsley with indented leaves adorns  
 ‘Thy verdant borders, while, for human use;  
 ‘The celery shoots out her whitening arms,  
 ‘And perforates the yielding mould, to add  
 ‘A luscious taste to thy rich savoury meals.  
 ‘For thee th’ asparagus with tapering stems  
 ‘Lifts its aspiring head; and, to regale  
 ‘Thy curious taste, an early offering makes  
 ‘Of the first-fruits the spring’s soft season yields.  
 ‘Her pulpy juice for thee the melon pours,  
 ‘Grateful to taste, and potent to allay  
 ‘The summer’s sultry heats; whose tendrils cling  
 ‘Fast to each prop that helps her to sustain  
 ‘Her golden burden. Like embattled files  
 ‘The beans erect their heads in martial rows,  
 ‘Stately and firm; while the weak feeble pea,  
 ‘A tender invalid, is pleas’d to twine  
 ‘Her infant debile arms around the boughs  
 ‘Supporting her frail stem; replenish’d soon  
 ‘Her swelling pods with fatness, which she draws  
 ‘From the rich soil, she empties all her store.’

Here we see Mr. *Newcomb* has judiciously omitted the *frizzled locks* and *vegetable marrow*, as he thought the garden would please his readers full as well without them.

The comparison of natural with artificial beauty is prettily exemplified by the flowers, as described by Mr. *Newcomb*.

‘How fine the texture of the web is wove  
 ‘On which its shining treasures are display’d!  
 ‘Say, can the Persian looms a bloom unfold  
 ‘To match their shining hues? or can the thread  
 ‘Drawn by the Mechlin needle through the lawn,  
 ‘Boast an embroidery so rich and fair  
 ‘As grace the various tints which nature spreads  
 ‘On each enamel’d bud? the chints, :dmr’d

- ' For its gay gaudy colours, loses all
- ' Its beauty and its richness, and appears
- ' Coarse as the canvas, when its fading bloom
- ' Dies and is lost, the bright carnation near.'

Mr. *Newcomb* has here omitted some good and pious reflections of *Hervey's*, which, if well expressed would have contributed, in our opinion, to the beauty of his poem.

Sentiment and reflection, as we before observed, are but thinly scattered in this poem; we meet however, now and then with some good ones. Such is the following address to man:

- ' Fav'rite of heav'n! lov'd darling of the sky!
- ' Distinguish'd by its goodness, nobly strive
- ' To rival his munificence and care
- ' With equal gratitude! —————

- ' When ev'ry creature else beneath adores
- ' Heaven's king in silent eloquence, be thou
- ' Their sacred herald, lend to each a tongue;
- ' Priest of the mute creation, join thy voice
- ' In vocal harmony to chaunt his praise.'

- ' Encompass'd round with mercies, can the heart
- ' Of man rebel against that pitying power
- ' Who loads him with his richest gifts each day?'

The poem concludes with one remarkably noble, and which Mr. *Newcomb* has expressed with strength and elegance.

- ' Can these bright scenes below transport the eye,
- ' Nor yet incite the mounting thought to dwell
- ' On heaven's refulgent splendors? to explore
- ' That world of bliss, those regions of delight,
- ' That please, though yet unseen; what artist's hand,
- ' Whose skilful pencil has the power to draw
- ' A landscape of those flowery seats that glow
- ' And shine with golden light above the skies?
- ' Would some kind angel draw aside the veil
- ' One moment, and permit the eye to throw
- ' A single glance on those divine abodes,
- ' The earth's vain pomps, the glories that are spread
- ' O'er nature's face, would die and disappear,
- ' Tasteless, and tarnish all—a transient view
- ' Of these resplendent scenes that glow above,
- ' Would captivate the soul, enlarge its powers;
- ' That after this bright vision, Eden's plain
- ' A lonely cheerless desert would appear,
- ' And every beauty now that charms the eye,
- ' In heaven's superior dazzling light expire.'

There



There are many more passages in this little poem, besides the above-quoted, which will afford our reader equal pleasure in the perusal; we cannot at the same time help observing, from our regard to truth, that there is a degree of \*carelessness and inaccuracy in this performance of Mr. Newcomb, which did not appear in his first, and which, in a work of this kind, whose principal merit must consist in the polishing and correctness of it, should, we think, have been studiously avoided. These blemishes are indeed made amends for by many beauties, which sufficiently prove the author capable of excelling, whenever he will take the pains to do it. We should be glad therefore, to see his poetical talents employed in some original work, which would perhaps do him more honour than this method of treading servilely in the steps of another, who, though not without genius and fancy, is by no means of the first rank in literature; and has hitherto, perhaps, been indebted for his fame more to the enthusiasm, than the judgment of his numerous and sanguine admirers.

\* Amongst many other instances of this, may be reckoned the following:

The muse delighted *chuses* to ascend  
Yon terras, &c.

The word *chuses*, which is too low and familiar, is frequently made use of.

Their whole expansion *stretch* to catch the rays,  
Green *intervening* alleys cut between  
That both protect us, and enriches *too*.

————— Their fragrant dews  
*Quite* dissipated —————

And in another place this word often repeated,

————— *Quite* gayly hung.

The expressions *obliging the smell, rocking to and fro, &c.* are objectionable.

*That pow'r that marshals all the starry train*  
*To guard her infant prog'ny* —————

*Some shaft discharg'd from heav'n's avenging sling.*

Now and then a rhyme creeps in, which has always a bad effect in blank verse. These, with several other neglects of the same kind, had escaped our author's observation. We recommend them therefore to his notice, and correction.

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ART. XIII. Mr. Keysser's travels through Germany, Bohemia, Hungary, Switzerland, Italy, and Lorrain. 4to. 4 vols. Linde. [Concluded.]

WITH pleasure we once more rejoin our agreeable traveller Mr. Keysser, who, in his fourth and last volume, conducts us through Carniola and Stiria to Vienna, Prague, and Dresden,

den, from thence to Leipsic and Halle. He then passes through Bareith and Bamberg, and brings us to Nuremberg and Ratisbon, takes the road to Heilbron and Mannheim, gives us an account of Darmstadt, Francfort, Mentz, and Landau, and concludes with a description of Luneville, Nancy, and the court of Lorrain.

There is added also an appendix, containing a military survey of a great part of Suabia. Some reflexions on the reduction of the Swedish crown-lands, and a useful table of the post-stages mentioned in the preceding travels.

This is the substance of Mr. Keyssler's last volume. In our extracts from it we shall take the same liberty as in the preceding, of travelling with him as the crow flies, passing over many places, and only stopping at those which seem best to deserve our reader's attention.

The first thing which we present him with, therefore, shall be our author's description of the famous city of Vienna.

'The city of Vienna is not very large; for it consists only of  
' twelve hundred and thirty-three houses; and a person may walk  
' round the walls in an hour. The number of the inhabitants,  
' from pretty exact computations, does not exceed fifty thousand.  
' But the suburbs, which all around extend five or six hundred  
' common paces from the fortifications of the city, take up a great  
' deal of ground. Now, if all the suburbs be comprised under the  
' name of Vienna, the number of the inhabitants will amount to  
' above three hundred and fifty thousand, the burials being an-  
' nually about seven thousand. The streets of Vienna are very  
' narrow and winding. The imperial court has the privilege of  
' quartering soldiers in the second story of the citizens houses,  
' which is a great diminution of the rents to the owners. As the  
' fronts of the houses, besides this inconveniency, are very narrow,  
' the citizens endeavour to make up these disadvantages by the  
' height of the buildings; so that there are houses at Vienna  
' six and seven stories high. One of those in the square, called the  
' Hof, has on one side seven, and on the other eight stories. The  
' houses at Paris are more magnificent than those at Vienna; but,  
' by reason of the walls and gates of the courts or areas before  
' them, which are generally shut, they make no great appearance  
' in the street. The palaces at Vienna are indeed, for the most  
' part, almost hid in narrow streets; but in splendor and magnifi-  
' cence they greatly surpass the hôtels of Paris; especially if one  
' takes in the noble structures in the suburbs of Vienna.'

Mr. Keyssler has omitted many particulars relating to Vienna, for which he refers us to an account of that city, published by John Basilus Kuchelbecker; from whose learned work we could wish our translator had supplied this deficiency.

Our readers, however, to make them amends for Mr. Keyssler's omission, will find in this volume an extract from secretary Isaiah Puffendorf's account of the imperial court and its constitution, which



which was read before the king and council of Sweden at Stockholm. This account is curious; and, besides the accuracy of the description, contains many judicious political reflections.

And now, reader, without digging in the mines of Hungary, or stopping at Buda and Neuendorf, we will proceed with Mr. Keyser, and enter where the king of Prussia could not, even the unfortunate city of Prague, which has so lately been the topic of conversation amongst us.

• The city of • Prague (says Keyser) is well laid out, and its streets are broader than those of Vienna; but it does not contain

• In a church at Prague • is to be seen the monument of Tycho Brahe, who acquired an immortal fame in chemistry, but more especially in astronomy. Over it is his usual motto in large characters:

• ESSE POTIVS QVAM HABERI.

• “To be, rather than to seem.”

• And underneath, the following inscription:

• Illustris ac generosus dominus Tycho de Brahe, Danus, dominus in Knudstrup, arcis Uraniburgi in insula Hellepont Danici Huenna fundator, instrumentorum astronomicorum, qualia nec ante sol vidit, ingeniosissimus idemque liberalissimus inventor & exstructor, antiquissimâ nobilitate clarus, suâ auctior, animo quæcunque cælo continentur immortalî gloriâ complexus, astronomorum omnis sæculi longè princeps, totius orbis commodo, sumtibus immensis, exactissimas intra minuta minutorumque partes, triginta amplius annorum observationes, mundo primus intulit; affixa sidera intra minutum ejusque semissem restituit; Hipparchi solius ab orbe condito vel diis improbos in octava duntaxat gradûs parte conatus longissimè antegressus, utriusque lunaris cursum exquisitè restauravit, pro reliquis erraticis solidissima tabularum Rudolphæarum fundamenta jecit, mathematicorum peritis inveteratam Aristotelis & assecularum doctrinam de sublunari cometarum novorumque siderum situ demonstrationibus invictis exemit novarum hypothesium autor, in spagyricis & universa philosophia admirandus. Evocatus ab invictissimo Romanorum imperatore Rudolpho II. mira doctrinæ & candoris exempla dedit, ne frustra vixisse videretur. Immortalitatem etiam apud Antipodes scriptorum perennitate sibi comparavit, planeque qualis esse, quam haberi maluit, nunc vitâ functus æternum vivit. Ejus exuvias uxorisque, triennio post defunctæ, hæredes liberi sacro hoc loco composuerunt. Obiit IV. kal. Nov. anni Christiani Dionysiaci MDCI. ætatis suæ LV.

• “The celebrated and noble Tycho Brahe, a native of Denmark, lord of Knudstrup, founder of the castle of Uraneburg, situated in Huen, an island in the Sound or Danish Hellepont, the ingenious inventor and most accurate maker of such astronomical instruments as the sun had never before beheld, illustrious for his noble descent, but more so on account of his personal merit; for his capacious mind comprehended whatever the vast expanse of heaven contains; who being far superior to all the astronomers of former ages, for the benefit of the whole world first published at an immense charge his astronomical

' so many palaces as the latter. The bridge over the Muldaw ex-  
 ' ceeds that of Ratisbon and Dresden in length, being seven hun-  
 ' dred and forty-two common paces. The breadth of it is fourteen  
 ' common paces; so that it affords room for three carriages to go  
 ' a-breast. It consists of sixteen arches, and is adorned on each  
 ' side with twenty-eight statues of so many saints. The crucifix  
 ' and the statue of St. John Nepomuc are of brass, and the rest of  
 ' stone. Several votaries are always to be seen here on their knees,  
 ' paying their devotion to these statues, especially at noon and in  
 ' the evening. St. Nepomuc, who, by order of king Wenceslaus,  
 ' was thrown over this bridge, because he would not reveal what  
 ' the queen had entrusted him with at confession, has, by his su-  
 ' perior merit, greatly lessened the interest of all the other saints  
 ' among the Bohemians: and it is certain, that they would have  
 ' been under greater obligations to him, if God, as it was expected,  
 ' had by his mediation blessed the emperor with a male heir. In  
 ' the year 1724, during the empress's pregnancy, a print was  
 ' publicly

' astronomical observations of above thirty years, which are accurate  
 ' even to minutes and seconds, and assigned the place of the fixed  
 ' stars within a minute and a half, very far surpassing Hipparchus,  
 ' who was the only person since the creation of the world that at-  
 ' tempted such an arduous task, &c. He accurately marked out the  
 ' true course of both the great luminaries, and for the other planets  
 ' laid the solid foundation of the Rudolphine tables. He exploded  
 ' the ancient opinion of Aristotle and his followers concerning the  
 ' sublunary motion of comets, invented new hypotheses, which he  
 ' confirmed by demonstration; and excelled in chemistry and every  
 ' branch of philosophy. Being invited by the emperor Rudolph II.  
 ' he gave admirable specimens of his learning and candour, that he  
 ' might not seem to have lived in vain. He likewise procured im-  
 ' mortal fame among the Antipodes by his works; and as when  
 ' living it was his choice to prefer reality to appearances, so now be-  
 ' ing dead he lives eternally. His remains, and those of his wife,  
 ' who died three years after him, were deposited in this sacred place  
 ' by his children, whom he left his heirs. He died on the 29th of  
 ' October, in the year 1601, of the Christian æra, according to the  
 ' Dionysian computation, and in the fifty-fifth year of his age.

' On a cornice beneath is this line, which is something obscure:

' *Non fasces nec opes sola sceptrâ perennant.*

' Under this Tycho Brahe is represented on a basso relievo of  
 ' marble, in armour, with a long sword by his side, a band, and  
 ' whiskers. He leans with his right hand on a celestial sphere,  
 ' which is placed over his coat of arms, with these words, still more  
 ' obscure than that above: *Proximi IIII. annates conclusi.* On his left  
 ' is placed his helmet. Round his tomb-stone are these words: *Anno*  
 ' *Domini MDCIII. die XXIV. Oct. obiit illustris & generosus dominus*  
 ' *Tycho Brahe, sacre Cæsaree majestatis consiliarius, cujus ossa hic requies-*  
 ' *cunt.* In the year 1603, October 24, died the noble and illustrious  
 ' Tycho Brahe, privy counsellor to his imperial majesty, whose re-  
 ' mains are deposited here.



‘ publicly sold, representing this saint holding a new born prince  
 ‘ out of the clouds, with this inscription under it, • See what St.  
 ‘ Nepomuc can do.’

In the palace at Prague, which was formerly the residence of the emperor, ‘ is shewn the apartment in the Bohemian secretary of  
 ‘ state’s office, from whence, in the year 1618, the lord of Slavata, high treasurer of the kingdom of Bohemia; baron Martiniz, grand marshal and governor of Carlstein; together with  
 ‘ M. Fabritius Platter, secretary of state, were thrown down headlong, for warmly espousing the interests of the house of Austria,  
 ‘ contrary to the sentiments of the majority who were present.  
 ‘ Tho’ it was the good fortune of these three noblemen to be received by a dunghil in their fall; yet it is something strange, that  
 ‘ in a fall from a height of six stories, or 28 ells of Prague, they  
 ‘ did not receive the least hurt. As their fall was involuntary,  
 ‘ Platter’s apology to the other two for his rudeness in falling on  
 ‘ them was entirely needless. I went down into the palace moat,  
 ‘ which is now dry, to take a view of the place where they fell;  
 ‘ and under a window facing the city I found amongst the bushes  
 ‘ at the very bottom of the ditch, a pedestal almost covered with  
 ‘ earth, on which was a square pyramid, with a globe on the apex,  
 ‘ and on that was a crucifix. On one side of the pedestal is to be  
 ‘ seen Slavata’s arms; on the other MRA; and on the third  
 ‘ IHS. Both names are surrounded with a glory. The fourth  
 ‘ side of the pyramid exhibits the following inscription:

‘ \* Anno Dni 1618. d. 23. Maji.

‘ Gulielmum Slavatam baronem de Chlum

‘ Et Koschenberg

‘ Nobiles hæretici,

‘ Quòd eos quantum potuerat tenuisset,

‘ Ne in Deum, Cæsarem & regem suam furerent,

‘ Neve patriam & se ipsos perditum irent,

‘ Tanquam frenetici medicum adgressi

‘ Ea rabie de cancellaria huc egere præcipitem,

‘ Ut proximè abfuerit à morte,

‘ Et sane ab ea se tunc abfuisse

F 4

‘ In

‘ \* In the year 1618, on the 23d of May, William Slavata, baron  
 ‘ of Culm and Koschenberg, endeavouring to restrain the heretics  
 ‘ from offending God, the emperor their sovereign, and from destroying  
 ‘ their country and themselves by their lawless rage, was by some  
 ‘ noblemen of that faction (who like lunatics were for laying violent  
 ‘ hands on their physician) thrown down headlong from the secretary  
 ‘ of state’s office to this place; so that he narrowly escaped with his  
 ‘ life. He would have chose to die in such a glorious cause rather  
 ‘ than live, were it not to behold the transporting sights of the daily  
 ‘ victories acquire’d over perfidy and rebellion, by the august piety  
 ‘ the emperor Ferdinand.’

‘ In causa tam gloriosa hodie doleret ;  
 ‘ Nisi illum sustineret spectaculum triumphorum,  
 ‘ Quos quotidie de perfidia reportat  
 ‘ Augusta pietas Cæsaris Ferdinandi.’

‘ About four and twenty feet from this spot, just under a window, on the other side of the apartment, near a common shore or drain, in a very filthy situation, stands a triangular pyramid, on two sides of which are also the names, Jesus and Maria ; and on the third this inscription :

‘ \* Anno Domini 1618. die 23. Maji  
 ‘ Jaroslaus Borzita Baro a Martiniz,  
 ‘ Quòd erga DEUM & Cæsarem  
 ‘ Regemque suum fide esset major  
 ‘ Quàm perfidia ferre posset,  
 ‘ Ab Hæretica Nobilitate è regia  
 ‘ Cancellaria primus in hunc  
 ‘ Fossæ locum velut in mortem certissimam deturbatus,  
 ‘ Et tribus plumbeis globis est ictus.  
 ‘ Verum quos inclamaverat,  
 ‘ Jesus & Maria  
 ‘ Vere pro vehiculo illi  
 ‘ Et pro scuto fuerunt,  
 ‘ Ita neque noxam sensit,  
 ‘ Et major à ruina surrexit.’

In an area before count Czernini's palace is shewn the place where the Swedes under count Konigsmark surprised this part of Prague, in the year 1648, who would have been masters of the city, had it not been for the timely resistance they met with from the tower which stands in old Prague, at the foot of the bridge. This resistance was the more extraordinary, as it was begun by father George Placchi, a jesuit, one Czibis a school-master, and three soldiers ; but the townsmen and students soon joining them, after an obstinate dispute the Swedes were repulsed with loss. The following inscription, in golden letters, is to be seen on one side of the tower, in memory of this gallant defence ; in which the only fault is, the indecent terms made use of in speaking of the Swedes.

‘ Siste

‘ \* In the year 1618, on the 23d of May, Jaroslaus Borzita, baron of Martinitz, who, by his loyalty to God and the emperor his lawful sovereign, had offended the perfidious and heretical nobility, was by them thrown down headlong from the secretary's office into this place as to certain death, being at the same time shot with three musket-balls ; but Jesus and Mary, whom he implored, gently waisted him, and shielded from danger, so that he received no hurt or damage, but rose more illustrious from his fall.’



\* Siste hic paulisper, viator,  
 \* Sed lubens ac volens,  
 \* Ubi multa populatus tandem vel invitus  
 \* Sistere debuit  
 \* Gothorum & Vandalorum furor;  
 \* Et lege sculptum in marmore,  
 \* Quod in perpetuam Boëmorum omnium  
 \* Sed imprimis vetero-Pragensium  
 \* Memoriam  
 \* Anno Domini MDCXLVIII.  
 \* Mars Suecicus ferro ac igne in hac  
 \* Turre dilineavit:  
 \* Hæc turris Gothici fuit ultima  
 \* meta furoris,  
 \* Sed fidei non est hæc ultima  
 \* meta Boëme,  
 \* Potuissent idipsum cives vetero-Pragenses  
 \* Tristi sanguine inscribere,  
 \* Nisi  
 \* Pax aurea  
 \* Ferdinandi III. pietate & justitiâ  
 \* In orbem Germanicum reducta  
 \* Pro sanguine aurum suppeditasset.

\* There are a hundred churches, and almost as many convents  
 \* in Prague. The city is not very populous, in proportion to its  
 \* extent; for the whole number of its inhabitants does not exceed  
 \* one hundred and twenty thousand; fifty thousand of which are  
 \* Jews, and seventy thousand Christians. The trade of this city is  
 \* but inconsiderable; for the Muldaw is not navigable; but, on  
 \* the contrary, very shallow. Near Prague-bridge, it forms a kind  
 \* of a cascade, &c. but below the bridge it is deep enough for  
 \* floats of timber.

From Prague Mr. Keyser carries us to Dresden; his description  
 of which is very accurate and entertaining. \* It is impossible (*says*  
 \* *he*) (let our female readers attend, for Mr. Keyser is talking of  
 \* China) to enumerate the multitude of pieces of fine porcelain,  
 \* both

\* Traveller, stay a while, (but thy stay shall be voluntary on this  
 \* spot, where the rage of the Goths and Vandals, after all its cruel  
 \* ravages, was stopped by force;) and read this inscription which in-  
 \* forms thee, that, to the perpetual glory of all Bohemians, but espe-  
 \* cially of the citizens of old Prague, the Swedish army, that destroyed  
 \* every thing with fire and sword, was repulsed in this place. *This*  
 \* *tower was the utmost limit of Gothic rage, but it is not the boundary of*  
 \* *Bohemian loyalty.* Had it not been for the golden age, and peace re-  
 \* stored to Germany, by the clemency and justice of Ferdinand III.  
 \* the citizens of old Prague would have inscribed these letters with  
 \* blood, which are now of gold.

both foreign and home-made, that are to be seen here. The customary porcelain vessels only are valued at a million of dollars. In one of the upper apartments are forty-eight vases of blue and white china, for which his Polish majesty gave the king of Prussia a whole regiment of dragoons. One chamber is full of vessels, said to have been painted by Raphael. The red porcelain made here, and which strikes fire, is now ordered to be antiquated, *i. e.* it is prohibited to make any more of that kind of porcelain, in order to enhance the value of what is already made. In the mean time the method of making it is drawn up in writing, and deposited in a secure place. The manufactory of common porcelain is carried on near Dresden; but the fine sort, which bears a high price, is made with the strictest precaution and secrecy in a castle at Meissen. Within this year and a half an order has been issued by the king, prohibiting the sale of the white porcelain; and, to secure to the country that profit which foreign artists used to acquire by gilding and painting it, forty painters are employed here, who paint in miniature with great elegance and skill. Dresden owes the invention of its porcelain to alchemy. Botticher, the first inventor of it, died in the year 1719; but he carried it no farther than the white sort; and it was not till the year 1722, that the art of making brown and blue porcelain-ware was found out. It receives no damage either in boiling or baking, but the intense heat of the fire in gilding breaks many a valuable piece.

Mr. Keyser, in his account of fort Königstein, has given us a description of an extraordinary large wine cask; which we recommend to the sons of Bacchus, as a truly valuable curiosity. The length of it is seventeen Dresden ells, and its diameter at the bung is twelve ells. It consists of a hundred and fifty-seven staves, which are eight inches thick, and fifty-four boards for the heads, six and twenty for one, and twenty-eight for the others. Each head weighs above seventy-seven hundred weight and a half. This cask was filled with six thousand quintals of good Meissen wine, which cost above forty thousand dollars\*, reckoning the quart of wine only at four groshens†. It holds three thousand seven hundred and nine hogsheads of Dresden measure, being six hundred and nine hogsheads more than filled the former vessel. Till this was made, the tun of Heidelberg was reckoned the largest in the world; but, according to the computation current here, this of Königstein contains six hundred and forty-nine hogsheads more than that of Heidelberg. Upon one head of this cask is the following inscription:

SALVE

\* 6000 l. sterling.

† 3½ d. sterling.



\* \* SALVE VIATOR,  
 \* ATQUE MIRARE  
 \* MONUMENTVM  
 \* BONO GENIO  
 \* AD RECREANDAM  
 \* MODICE MENTEM  
 \* POSITVM A. R. S. MDCCXXV.  
 \* A PATRE PATRIAE  
 \* NOSTRAE AETATIS TITO VESPASIANO  
 \* DELICIIIS GENERIS HVMANI  
 \* FRIDERICO AUGUSTO  
 \* POL. REGE ET ELECTORE SAX.  
 \* BIBE ERGO IN HONOREM ET PATRIS  
 \* ET PATRIAE ET DOMVS AVGVSTAE  
 \* ET KOENIGST. PRAEFECTI  
 \* LIB. BAR. DE KYAV  
 \* ET SI PRO DIGNITATE VASIS  
 \* DOLIORVM OMNIVM  
 \* FACILE PRINCIPIS VALES  
 \* IN PROSPERITATEM  
 \* TOTIVS VNIVERSI  
 VALE.

\* The top of the cask is railed in, and affords room for fifteen  
 \* or twenty persons to regale themselves. There are also several  
 \* kinds of welcome cups, which are offered to those who delight  
 \* in such honours.

\* In the consistorial chamber at Eisleben is shewn a print of Lu-  
 \* ther, which is said to have been wonderfully preserved in a fire  
 \* that happened at Artern. On one side of it are these verses:

\* † Baumichii flagrante domo in cineresque redacto  
 \* Omnibus effigies salva, Luthere, tua est.  
 \* Quamlibet

\* \* Welcome, traveller, and admire this monument, dedicated to  
 \* festivity, in order to exhilarate the mind with a chearful glass, in the  
 \* year 1725, by Frederick Augustus, king of Poland and elector of  
 \* Saxony, the father of his country, the Titus of his age, the delight  
 \* of mankind. Therefore drink to the health of the sovereign, the  
 \* country, the electoral family, and baron Kyaw, governor of Konig-  
 \* stein; and if thou art able, according to the dignity of this cask, the  
 \* most capacious of all casks, drink to the prosperity of the whole uni-  
 \* verse: and so farewell.

\* † Amidst the flames which reduced Baumich-house to ashes, thy  
 \* picture, Luther, remained unhurt; and tho' it was buried in the hot  
 \* embers, the fire had no power over it. 'Tis true, the door on which  
 thy

- ‘ Quamlibet in mediis sit conspulta favillis,
- ‘ Non tamen hic aliquid flamma nocere potest.
- ‘ Janua quippe perit rapidæ dans pabula flammæ,
- ‘ Non tamen affixa huic disperit effigies.
- ‘ Scilicet hinc omen depromimus haud fore quicquam,
- ‘ Perdere quod possit quæ docuisse soles.

‘ F. M. Bartholomæus Beck.’

At Nuremberg our author met with a variety of curiosities, amongst which is the cabinet of Dr. Trew, which contains a collection of ‘ about six thousand kinds of plants; several petre-  
‘ factions; a seminary, or a set of all kinds of seeds; some de-  
‘ licate and curious skeletons of leaves and fruit; and several pieces,  
‘ shewing the curious mechanism, &c. of the human body. Dr.  
‘ Trew, in his system of generation, declares in favour of the ova-  
‘ ria; and among the many embryo’s, which are in his possession,  
‘ he shews an ovulum of a very small size, which he supposes to  
‘ have been impregnated about a month before; however, the  
‘ rudiments of the human body are very plainly discernible in it.  
‘ The doctor has set up in his museum the following moral in-  
‘ scription :

- ‘ \* Mortalium quisquis es
- ‘ Te ipsum & tui causâ procreata
- ‘ Imprudenter ignorans,
- ‘ Hic pedem paulisper fige
- ‘ Corporis mentisque oculis præditus sanis.
- ‘ Huc
- ‘ Mens otiosa,
- ‘ Manus curiosa
- ‘ Exuvias hominum,
- ‘ Reliquias brutorum,
- ‘ Ornatum

‘ thy picture hung, was consumed by the devouring flames; however,  
‘ the latter escaped the general ruin. Hence this happy omen may  
‘ be deduced, namely, that thy salutary doctrines will ever flourish in  
‘ spite of all the fraud and violence of its enemies.’

‘ \* Mortal, if ignorant of the structure of thy own body, and of  
‘ that of the animals, &c. created for thy sake, if thy sight be good,  
‘ and thy mind inclined to knowledge, stop here a while. Hither,  
‘ for thine and his own benefit, an abstracted mind and curious hand  
‘ have collected the skeletons of men, animals, and vegetables, with  
‘ the various kinds and forms of minerals. Every particle of these  
‘ is a kind of natural hieroglyphic, which delineates the infinite good-  
‘ ness, bounty, and glory of the creator much more distinctly than  
‘ those invented by the Egyptians; and, at the same time, teaches  
‘ thee to celebrate the unfathomable power of the deity, to admire the  
‘ inimitable and wonderful formation of all things, to confute the ab-  
‘ surdity and obstinacy of the wicked atheist, to observe the sudden  
‘ change of vain beauty into loathsomeness; and, from thence, and  
‘ the frailty of human life, to learn true wisdom.’



- Ornatum vegetabilium,
- Lufum mineralium
- In tuam & fuam congeffit utilitatem.
- Quot cernis horum particulas
- Tot adfpicis hieroglyphicas naturæ literas
- Gratiam & gloriam creatoris infinitam
- Saniorem quàm olim Ægyptiorum fapientiam
- Delineantes,
- Simul atque docentes
- Dei immortalis omnipotentiam celebrare imperferutabilem,
- Rerum cunctarum fabricam admirari inimitabilem,
- Athei nefandi pertinaciam vincere ineptam,
- Formofitatis vanæ mutationem rimari fubitam,
- Et inde
- Vitæ hujus fragilis prudentiam difcere veram.

The following account of father Urban, which we find in Mr. Keyfler's description of Ingolftadt, will, we apprehend, be entertaining to our readers.

Father Urban was for feveral years confeflor to the elector Palatine John William, of the houfe of Neuburg, and for his learning and probity, was in great favour with that prince. Both the elector and his confeflor were engaged in trying alchymical experiments: but the elector's curiofity was not confined to thefe; for it prompted him to other experiments, in which he fpared no expence. The confeflor alfo promoted and affifted at thefe ftudies; fo that every thing appertaining to the experiments, &c. paffed through his hands. If any remarkable curiofities were offered for fale to the elector, father Urban generally had fomething of the fame kind in miniature; every one ftiving to gain his favour by fuch prefents, which he often received from the elector himfelf. And as father Urban had the care of moft of the curiofities, the elector dying without iffue, bequeathed them all to him. Before that prince died he had alfo brought the general of the Jefuits to an agreement that, by a particular difpenfation, father Urban, after the demife of the elector, fhould be allowed to take up his refidence in any college of Jefuits he pleafed, and to live there with a brother of the order exempt from the ufual difcipline. After the elector's deceafe, father Urban chofe the Jefuits college at Landshut for his place of refidence. He there arranged his curiofities in feveral apartments, clofely applied himfelf to his ftudies, and was univerfally beloved and efteemed for his inftinctive and agreeable converfation. His former refidence and intereft at court had given him an opportunity of getting a great infight into the affairs of his order; and as he had been ufed to a more free manner of living, it is not improbable, that the Jefuits did not always relifh his way of thinking. He once appointed the following remarkable thefis:

‘ Quid sit Jesuita, nemo scit, nisi qui fuit ipse Jesuita.

‘ No man knows what a Jesuit is, but he that has been a Jesuit.

‘ But what drew on him the mortal hatred of his order, was the  
 ‘ hospital or alms-houses he undertook to build, and almost ac-  
 ‘ complished. He advised the late elector Palatine to demand of  
 ‘ the Dutch a hundred and eighty thousand guilders, which were  
 ‘ actually due as arrears of subsidies; but looked upon at Dussel-  
 ‘ dorp as an irrecoverable debt. The elector once hinting as much,  
 ‘ father Urban said, that if the money was accounted as lost, his  
 ‘ highness had better bestow it on him, than let the Dutch have it :  
 ‘ And when the elector asked his confessor, what he would do with  
 ‘ such a sum ? the latter made answer, that he intended to build and  
 ‘ endow an hospital for the poor with it. The elector, not dis-  
 ‘ liking father Urban’s good intentions, ordered proper instruments  
 ‘ to be made out, to empower him to receive the money. With  
 ‘ these credentials father Urban went to Holland, where he ma-  
 ‘ naged matters so well, that he brought away with him a hun-  
 ‘ dred thousand guilders of the demand.

‘ He was no sooner settled, as he thought, in Landshut, than  
 ‘ his first care turned upon the building of the above mentioned  
 ‘ hospital ; and after he had expended above sixty thousand guilders  
 ‘ on it, he gave the direction of it to the town, together with the  
 ‘ disposal of the money which was still due from the Dutch arrears.  
 ‘ The jesuits of Landshut were enraged to the highest degree at this  
 ‘ proceeding ; though father Urban protested for his justification,  
 ‘ that the money was granted him on that condition ; and that if  
 ‘ the elector had lived some time longer, the hospital would have  
 ‘ been built at Dusseldorp. The deprivation of the management  
 ‘ of this lucrative charity made the jesuits apprehend, that father  
 ‘ Urban might possibly leave his valuable collection of curiosities,  
 ‘ as well as the direction of the hospital, to the town of Landshut.  
 ‘ To prevent which they thought it the best expedient to remove  
 ‘ him from that town.

‘ What happened at the same time about the countess of Tauf-  
 ‘ kirchen’s will, exasperated the jesuits still more against father Ur-  
 ‘ ban. That lady lay very ill at Landshut. and sent for the father  
 ‘ to be present at the making of her will. He attended accord-  
 ‘ ingly, supposing that he was only sent for as a witness ; and a  
 ‘ *testamentum nuncupativum* was declared in the presence of the fa-  
 ‘ ther and seven other witnesses. But when the executor was to  
 ‘ be named, she fixed upon father Urban, with a proviso, that he  
 ‘ should manage and lay out her fortune for the use of the poor.  
 ‘ The father expressed an extreme concern at this proceeding, and  
 ‘ dissuaded the sick lady from her purpose with a pathetic disinte-  
 ‘ restedness ; reminding her, that she had several very necessitous  
 ‘ relations, on whom it would be the greatest charity and piety to  
 ‘ bestow her fortune. He also represented to her, that, tho’ the trust

‘ were



were executed with the utmost integrity and faithfulness, he should inevitably be loaded with envy, calumny, and reproach, on that account. In short, by his persuasive arguments and earnest entreaties, he prevailed upon the lady to alter her mind, and consequently her fortune was equitably divided among her relations soon after her decease. This affair could not be kept secret; and it is easy to imagine with what indignation the jesuits were fired, when they found that a booty of thirty or forty thousand dollars, which, after Urban's death, they would not have failed to appropriate to themselves as the proper objects of such charitable legacies, was diverted to another channel by his means. Whoever wounds the Romish clergy in their interest, must expect no favour or compassion; and if it had depended on them, this sin would have been one of those which are never to be forgiven, either in this world or the next. The jesuits bitterly reproached their brother, taxing him with malice and ingratitude towards his order; and even with perjury, because he did not previously consult the rector of the college, and afterwards pay an implicit obedience to his directions. Some time after, a post chaise stopped at the college gate; and by a certain number of pulls at the bell, according to a previous agreement, notice was given who the person was that they wanted, and father Urban was called accordingly. When he came to the gate, he found two jesuits in the chaise, who put into his hands a written order from the provincial, or general, by virtue of which he was without delay to get into the carriage with them; which he obeyed. In this manner they conveyed him to Ingolstadt, where they left him under pretence that he had the gout, the colic, and a complication of other disorders; and ordered some persons to attend him, to prevent his making his escape, and also to observe in what manner he would give vent to his resentment against his brethren the jesuits. With much ado he at last obtained leave to send for his collection of curiosities, and to have a particular apartment built for the reception of them. He is at present seventy-three years old, and spends all his time in a close application to his studies. The vulgar look upon him as a magician, and imagine that he intimately converses with familiar spirits. All I shall farther add of this extraordinary person, is, that the celebrated Leibnitz was introduced at the emperor's, the elector Palatine's, and several other courts by father Urban.

The nature of our work will not admit of larger extracts from this very useful performance; but what we have already laid before our readers, will sufficiently convince them, that Mr. Keyser is a most instructive and entertaining traveller, industrious, accurate, and interesting, with great taste, genius and erudition. If, upon the whole, we keep him at home with us, we shall find him an excellent master; and, if we go abroad, we need not desire a better guide, or a more agreeable companion.

ART. XIV. *A compendium of the practice of physic. By Laurence Heister, Senior professor of physic and surgery in the university of Helmstadt, first physician and aulic-counsellor to his serene highness the duke of Brunswick, member of the Imperial academy of sciences, and fellow of the royal societies of London and Berlin. Translated from the original Latin, by Edmund Barker, M. D. 8vo. Pr. 6s. Payne.*

**H**EISTER'S compendium of the practice of physic was published several years ago in the original Latin, and has been generally looked upon as one of the best books of the sort, in any language. In it the whole science of physic is brought into a small compass, and treated clearly, distinctly, and methodically; so that this abridgment has been judged to be particularly adapted to the use of such students of physic, as were preparing themselves for examination, in order to obtain their degrees.

The translator, in his preface, informs us, that he has made it English for the sake of 'many inferior persons of the profession, in the country especially; who, though very useful in their stations, have not had opportunities of making themselves sufficiently acquainted with the Latin tongue, to read the original of this useful work with ease.' And for such this seems to be a very good translation. He proceeds to acquaint us, 'that the author, in the course of this treatise, frequently alludes to the official compositions of German dispensatories, giving only their titles, supposing their forms well known to his countrymen; it was, therefore, absolutely necessary, that the reader may be acquainted with the medicines he uses in particular cases, to extract from the several pharmacopœias such forms of remedies as he mentions in his work: and, that they may be referred to with greater ease, they are added, in alphabetical order, at the end of this translation.'

If the translator had been as good as his word, he would have done the public a considerable service: for it is matter of regret to almost every English reader, that the German prescriptions are for the most part unknown to us, or at least it is so troublesome to pick them out from different books; that the works of Hoffman, and other practical authors, are by this means much less useful than they would otherwise be. The translator, instead of mentioning all the foreign forms of medicines contained in this compendium, has given only twenty-four of them at the end of the book. Concerning which, we shall only further remark, that it would have been more of a piece with the rest of his work, if he had translated them also.

P. A. R. I. S.

\* Vide note at the bottom of page 230, where he says twenty years ago; but this cannot be, for in this present work Heister often quotes his surgery, and his surgery was published only in 1739.



## PARIS.

ART. XV. *Journal historique ou conquête de l'isle Minorque, par les François.**An historical journal of the conquest of the island of Minorca, &c.*

**T**His is a thick octavo volume, consisting of 422 pages; 92 of which are taken up by the journal; and the rest is a collection of verses, written by divers hands upon this occasion; together with an account of various rejoicings, of which it was the cause.

The more important an expedition (*says our author*) the greater ought to be the pains taken to conceal it from the knowledge of those, against whom it is intended. Yet the French, in their designs upon Minorca, acted upon principles of quite a contrary nature; the point at which they aimed, was known almost at the beginning of their preparations; and it was easy to see, that they were resolved to deprive the English of a possession that cherished their natural pride by the strength it gave them in the Mediterranean.

When orders for fitting out a squadron were dispatched to Toulon, a war with Great Britain was looked upon as inevitable. The king's moderation [*take notice, it is a Frenchman speaks*] being quite exhausted by intolerable insults and hostilities, it was time for France to shew these arrogant islanders, that she was not longer to be injured with impunity; that she feared their moving towers as little, as that formidable column wherewith they opposed her arms upon the plains of Fontenoy. North America had been hitherto the sole, or at least the principal seat of war. France found herself in that quarter the stronger, and she became more so by the defeat of Braddock, which overthrew the schemes laid by the English for making themselves masters of Canada; which, it is certain, was their chief object; and that, possessed of a chain of fine colonies, they extended their views to nothing less than the sovereignty of a vast portion of the American continent. After the discoveries, made by Braddock's private papers, it was natural for France to exert herself, not only in the preservation of her colonies, but in revenging herself upon an enemy who had endeavoured to amuse her with negotiations, only with a view of gaining time for carrying into execution vast hostile designs. It was in consequence of the measures taken for opposing the projects of England, that the French naval armaments were so vigorous, and her preparations upon the coast of the channel so considerable, as to make England fear for her domestic safety. In spite of the pompous lists with which the world was furnished of her men of war, and the vast increase of seamen in the service of that crown, she dared not send reinforcements

‘ forcements to America, where nevertheless she dreaded our enterprizes,’

After a few more pages of parade and flourish, of which the above paragraphs are a sufficient specimen, our French author proceeds to a short description of the island of Minorca, more particularly of the sea coast; he then briefly relates the fight between Galissoniere and Byng, without any material reflections upon either; and concludes with a journal of the siege, which appears to be copied from the news-paper, as it affords little either new or remarkable. ‘ The capitulation (*says he*) for the surrender of the place was signed by general Blakeney on the 28th, by the marshal on the 29th. It will be an eternal monument of the generosity of the French, towards a nation always jealous of their glory, but more of their advantages; a nation that seems to have for them an insuperable antipathy; a nation against whom they have been obliged to take up arms, to revenge themselves of her violences and breach of faith. *Such was the character of the antient Romans; they conquered, only to take from their foes the power of hurting.*’

The Frenchman, having thus highly complimented his country, makes the following apt reflection:

‘ If the English spared no expence in the preservation of a place, of the importance of which they were so well satisfied; how much more ought it to be the care of the French and Spaniards, as they see the advantages that accompany it, and how favourable the situation was to a nation that endeavours to engross to itself all branches of commerce, and which regards every one as its foe that attempts to establish a new one. The conquest of this place deprives the English of an assured retreat in the Mediterranean; since here their merchantmen baited, until a convenient time offered for them to dispose of their cargoes in Spain and the Levant; and this, we know, is a very considerable part of their trade. Whatever nation is possessed of Minorca, has it much in its power to make the pyratial states of Barbary pay that respect to its flag, which nothing can compel them to, but absolute superiority.’

We shall conclude this article with observing, that the author of this piece loses no opportunity of boasting of the courage, the conduct and the wisdom of his own nation; and, contrary to the custom and politics of France, his praises are but sparingly bestowed upon her opponents. He rigidly observes a rule that the French writers seem universally to have adopted, that of puzzling facts, and confusing accounts by mis-spelling names, and reducing them entirely to a French standard: for example, he every where calls Blakeney, Blankeley, or Blankeney; he gives major Cunningham the name of Kalinguan, &c. Among the poems that accompany this account of Minorca, we find several that have merit; more particularly three little pieces by Voltaire; the best of which we have given in a former N°. of this work.

ART.



ART. XVI. *Lettre de M. Formey, secretaire perpetuel de l'academie royale de Prusse, a M. Matty, Sec. au sujet du memoire de M. Eller, sur l'usage du cuivre.*

A letter from Mr. Formey to Dr. Matty, occasioned by Mr. Eller's dissertation on the use of copper.

**T**HIS pamphlet was printed at Berlin, and is sold at Paris, with the leave of Mr. Eller; who does not chuse as yet to publish his piece, wherein he endeavours to remove the general prejudices conceived against the use of copper; and to shew, that the dressing of victuals in copper utensils, is not of such bad consequence as has been asserted. Formey's letter is a sort of detail of, and introduction to, the said dissertation; and he tells us, that the most expert chymists have not been able to find any thing hurtful arising from copper properly prepared. In his extracts he supplies us with a great number of experiments, made by Mr. Eller with the most scrupulous attention, with an exactness not to be exceeded, and sufficient to remove every prejudice harboured against this metal.

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AREZZO (a city in Tuscany).

ART. XVII. *Orlando Furioso di Messer Ludovico Ariosto, tradotto in versi Latini d'all illustr. sign. Marchese Torquato Barbolani, &c.*

**E**Ngland and France have long enjoyed the first seats of literary glory; but, within these few years, Italy and Germany have therein endeavoured to rival them; and, if the present confusions upon the continent do not interrupt the progress of the learned, and call their attention another way, it is to be hoped the emulation will increase; as it must add considerably to the improvement of arts and sciences.

The work now before us is a proof of this; and notwithstanding some zealous admirers of Tasso have affirmed, that he would prove the grave of Ariosto, we find the latter daily rise in reputation. Mr. Huggin's accurate translation of this great poet, a character of which may be found in the 3d volume of the *Critical Review*, may here be called in to support our assertion; and Barbolani's Latin version of it, is a confirmation still more full. It were an affront to every reader of taste and learning, should we here pretend to analyse a poem, so very well known; the composition of which has, by the best critics, been allowed to be wonderfully beautiful, in spite of the strange mixture which it contains of heathen and christian mythology; and of some flights, in which our author in-

dulges himself, unworthy of the dignity of his subject; for tho' w agree with Boileau, where he says,

- ' And let us not, among our vanities,
- ' Of the true God create a thousand lies.'

Yet, with the same author we can truly say,

- ' At once you may be pleasing and sublime,
- ' I hate a heavy melancholy rhyme ;
- ' Would rather read Orlando's comic tale,
- ' Than a dull author, always stiff and stale.'

Ariosto, who contends for the bays of Italian poetry with Tasso, and who carries it against him in the opinion of some, tho' not in that of Rapin, died in the month of July 1533, aged 53; and left behind him some Latin poems, to be found scattered, and confounded, with the works of inferior writers, in the first tome of the *Deliciae poetarum Italorum*; also some Italian comedies, said to be written with exquisite art. *Gli suppositi*, which is one of them, is, in the judgment of \*Paulus Jovius, little inferior to Plautus; whether we consider it for invention, grace, beauty, or design. But his master-piece is Orlando Furioso, in the language of which we find him pure, sublime, and admirable; his descriptions are noble, but injudicious; he speaks well, but thinks ill; and his genius, like the neglected fertile glebe, produces a medley of delightful flowers and ungrateful thistles †.

Where the devil master Lewis did you find all these sapperies? was a bitter taunt of cardinal d'Est, to whom Ariosto dedicated this, the effect of his twenty years toiling: yet, it is certain, he had great fancy, great invention, vast variety, and a prodigious imagination: we read Homer, because it is a necessary duty; but can peruse Ariosto again and again, and still find in him new pleasure. It is with writings as with men, those who are most grave and serious are most esteemed; we prefer the characters drawn by a regular imagination, to those presented by one that wantonly soars above all rule; yet the latter is generally much more pleasing. However, it is easier to delineate a giant, than a hero; to swerve from, than follow nature.

The Latin translation, of which we now speak, enjoys a very good character abroad; and we cannot but own ourselves surprised to find such a variety of adventures, new thoughts, barbarous and out-of-the-way names, proverbs and expressions scarcely reconcileable to the Latin idiom, rendered with a most elegant precision. The following lines, taken from the beginning of the fifth canto, will give the reader a proper idea of this work:

' Cætera,

\* See his Elegies upon learned men.

† Rapin upon epic poetry.



- Cætera, quæ nutrit tellus, animalia vitam
- Aut vivunt placidam, tranquilla & pace fruuntur;
- Aut, si rixantes aliquando prælia tentant,
- Feminæ genus haud unquam nos provocat asper.
- In mediis arsum sequitur tutissima silvis
- Ursa, leæna jacet fævo vicina leoni,
- Cumque lupo lupa tuta manet, taurumque juvenca
- Haud metuit. Quæ pectus atrox, quæ dira Megara,
- Pectora nunc humana quatit? cum conjuge semper
- Quandoquidem garrit jactans convicia conjux;
- Os lacerum, & nigro adparet livore notatum:
- Ipse madet lacrymis thalamus genialis amaris,
- Nec tantum lacrymis, verum quandoque cruentis
- Immaduit rivis, quos ira infania fudit.
- Tum mihi flagitii nedum reus esse videtur
- Infandi, at prorsus naturæ abrumperé leges,
- Numinis & spretor, pulchram quicumque puellæ
- Percutiat rabidus faciem, lædatve capillum;
- Plena venenatis ac qui det pocula succis,
- Vel laqueo eripiat, vel acuta cuspide, vitam.
- Esse hominem haud unquam credam, sed vallis avernae
- Egressum ex imo humana sub imagine monstrum.
- Hac est credendum de stirpe fuisse latrones,
- Quorum subtraxit Rinaldus ab ungue puellam
- Desertas raptam in valles, ne fama superstes
- Ulla foret. Jamque illa suos exponere casus
- Scitanti heroi, vitæ cui munera debet,
- Haud renuens, tremulo fari sic cœperat ore.
- Immanis feritas, qua non immanior Argis,
- Aut Thebis quondam, sævis aut visa Mycenis,
- Aut ubicumque feri fuit inclementia cordis.
- Debachchata magis, tibi nunc narrata patebit.
- Ac si, fulgentem quum Sol ferat undique lucem,
- His minus admoveat nitidos regionibus axes,
- Quam terris aliis, invitus, suspicor, idem
- Nos adit, evitans tam diras cernere gentes, &c.

The whole work is replete with harmony, ease, and masterly composition; and we dare venture to affirm, that cardinal Banchieri, to whom it is addressed, has given Barbolani a reception very different from that Ariosto met with from the patron he had chosen.

The whole is beautifully printed in two quarto volumes, with the Italian text on one side; the impression is well taken off upon a handsome paper, and adorned with frontispieces, cuts, &c. executed in a delicate manner.

- ✓ Art. 18. *A new method of treating the common continual fever, and some other distempers. With some observations on a treatise called the febricula, and Dr. James's fever powder.* 8vo. Pr. 1s. Hitch and Hawes.

**T**HIS author is an enemy to *concoction*; and indeed nothing can be more *crude* than his performance. He insists upon some particulars, however, in which he seems to claim the merit of a discovery; as for instance, 'Fevers are common to us in all places, all ages, and all seasons; and not like the small-pox, only once in our life, but all our life long we are liable to them.—The sooner the physician is consulted, the better.—I am thinking whether the relapse of an intermittent, might not be prevented by rubbing the patient's body with a flannel dipt in a decoction of the bark half wrung out warm in a morning before he rises, and to be repeated two or three mornings successively.—I am farther thinking whether the fever might not be cured in this manner with administering the bark internally.'—Now we are thinking he had better not think at all, than employ his thoughts so little to the purpose. We would likewise advise him to look into the dictionary, before he writes hard words, that he may not again expose himself to fiery *alixyphermicks*, or sudden *chills*, *phragoricks*, or be wrapped up in a garment of obscurity of the following texture: 'It is well known, that to hot medicines, unseasonably given, as well as to putrid humours re-absorbed, are owing convulsions, deliria, and other direful symptoms, which by calming, instead of exaggerating the blood, would not have happened.' This is the first time we ever heard that convulsions, deliria, and other direful symptoms, calmed the blood; and we should be glad to know in what manner the contrary method would exaggerate it. He afterwards tells us, that 'in fevers, owing to a diminished perspiration, nature endeavours to cure the fever by restoring it.' He observes, that 'when the case is perplexed, the physician gives chips, that is, he gives nothing, and in this he is right; and thus acted the most eminent physician of his time.' We wish he had told us in what vehicle he gave chips, and how he found out that chips were nothing, and how he metamorphosed these chips, and this nothing, into pearl and crabs-eyes.

This author's method of cure consists in rubbing the patient's body with flannel muffs, applying bladders of hot water to his feet and sides, and administering plenteous draughts of warm diluting liquors; and if these do not produce a perspiration, to provoke an artificial ptyalism. He extols the treatise on the *febricula*, commends Dr. James's powder, though he knows not the composition; proposes leaches and compression in the piles, and leaches in the pleurisy.

In a word, this learned physician may number us among his patients, for we are extremely sick of his prescriptions.

- ✓ Art. 19. *A letter to his grace the D— of B—d.* 8vo. Pr. 1s. Herbek.

The author of this pamphlet seems to be perfectly well acquainted with all the springs and motives which have lately actuated the factions of Ireland. His professed aim is to point out to the new lord l—t those rocks upon which the two last governments had well nigh been ship-wrecked. He writes like a man of consequence, who is in the  
secret



Secret of Irish politics. The characters are drawn by a masterly hand, and the whole piece well worth perusing.

- Art. 20. *Familiar letters of Dr. William Sancroft, late lord archbishop of Canterbury, to Mr. North, afterwards Sir Henry North of Mil-denhall, Bart. both before, but principally after, his deprivation for refusing to take the oaths to king William III. and his retirement to the place of his nativity in Suffolk: found among the papers of the said Sir Henry North, never before published To which is prefixed, some account of his life and character.* 8vo. Pr. 1s. Cooper.

These letters may, for aught we know to the contrary, be the work of archbishop Sancroft, though they might as probably have been written by any other archbishop, or to say the truth, by any old woman in the kingdom, being nothing but a common collection of how-do-ye's, two or three private anecdotes of no consequence but to the parties concerned, and a few trite observations, without any wit, stile, or novelty to recommend them. The bishop writes to his dear friend, and tells him he longs for his good company. 'Our great business here (*says he*) is to keep off all visits but of my own relations. Yet on Monday Sir William Cook was here, with his two sons-in-law, and Dr. Hearn, the court-chaplain. Mr. Wharton was here on Friday; and on Saturday my cousin, Mr. Green, who would willingly attend me; but I told him I must be (as I have been ever since I left Lambeth, or rather since that left me) my own chaplain; and it suits not with my present condition to keep still that piece of state. The truth is, our old house is so full, that there is no room for supernumeraries; and as for the new, hay and harvest have set it so far back, that we despair of finishing, and rendering it habitable, before the next winter be past.'

'Buttered coffee (*says his grace in another letter*) I have not used, exactly, as the good old woman taught it the doctor: but I sometimes eat bread and butter in a morning, and superbibe my second dish of coffee after it.'

'We are preparing our diet-drink, with all the ingredients you mention; except the garden scurvy-grass; for we would not have it be, or seem stale, before we have done with it, and are weary of it.'

'Alas! for honest old John Cook! All my old friends drop away, one after another, and I shall stand alone, I think, ere long of those of my time; but in the course of things it cannot be long.'

'My usual pill I have taken but once, and that at my first coming hither; and yet (God be praised) I have no complaint—unless it be my old pain in my right shoulder, which gives me the strappada sometimes, when I put on my doublet. My native air hath been very kind to me; yet I stir no farther, nor oftener into it, than I did into a worse. I have of late, three or four times in a week, swallowed three or four juniper-berries, superbibing coffee, or your diet-drink.'

'When you next visit the bishop of Worcester, (who still so kindly inquires of me) I pray give him my kind respects.'

'On new-year's day, when your good neighbour, and his good friend were so kind as to visit us, the service (you know) is very long, and I officiated myself, as I use to do; in a very cold room

‘ too, where there never was a fire, and the day, you may remember, very cold too. So that, by that time the office was performed, I was indeed very cold ; and so, I believe, was the whole company. But that hereupon I got cold, or had then upon me any thing of that, which in England we usually call a cold, is a mistake.

Would one have thought it worth any man’s while to disturb the ashes of this worthy prelate, merely for the sake of raking up such rubbish as this to throw upon his character ? The editor of these letters hath indeed thought proper, by way of recommendation, to stile them *familiar* ; but he forgot the old proverb, which would have informed him, that *familiarity breeds contempt*, a contempt, which he will most certainly meet with, as the only reward he can possibly expect for such a flimsy and catch-penny performance.

- ✓ Art. 21. *The ghost of Ernest, great grandfather of her royal highness the princess dowager of Wales. With some account of his life.* 8vo. Pr. 1s. 6d. Whiston and White.

I’ll take the ghost’s word for a thousand pounds. HAMLET.

This ghost, who, contrary to the custom of his brother ghosts, thus ventures to make his appearance in open day-light, is come, it seems, from the other world on purpose to bring us the character of *Ernest* duke of *Gotha*, a prince who lived about 130 years ago, and from whom the heir to the crown of this kingdom is lineally descended, and in whom we may survey with pleasure the pattern that our future sovereign hath in this his illustrious ancestor. The language of the *ghost* (we are informed in the preface) is exactly suiting the character of the *man*, and what neither he might, unbecomingly use, nor the eminent person to whom it is addressed, unprofitably hear.

But look, my lords, it comes, and thus addresses his royal highness.

‘ Your commendable dispositions, O prince !—the support they will have from the steadiness of your temper—the improvement of them that may be expected from your good understanding, from the observations with which history has furnished you, on the advantages of a life of virtue, and the inconveniencies necessarily connected with vice ; from the sad proof likewise continually before you, how much more difficult it is to govern a corrupt people, than it would be to rule a virtuous, and how powerfully the morals of the great influence their inferiors.’

‘ A prince’s station is very far from being a safe one ; which you need no history to teach you, but that of the country you are to govern. His soldiers are not always near him ; and, if they were, might prove no defence, or he might want to be defended against them. The protection, which will never deceive him, is the love of his subjects. When he hath this, he needs no guards ; when he loses it, he is secured by none.’

‘ Then is it you will appear qualified for rule, when you exercise it over yourself—over your own passions and appetites. To have them in subjection, will be more for your glory than to subdue any enemy whom your arms can oppose.’

‘ Reign, live, for these purposes : these will be your true grandeur : from these expect the utmost happiness which can be found in life and empire.’

This,



This, with some more advice equally salutary, concludes the pamphlet, and may serve for a specimen of our ghost's oratory, which is by no means contemptible, and we heartily wish that his royal highness may never meet with worse counsellors.

We shall only add, in regard to this article, that though the character of *Ernest* is every way amiable, our author need not have gone so far back for an object of imitation, and that the advice given would have come at least with equal, perhaps with much greater propriety, from the mouth of the late excellent prince of Wales.

- ✓ Art. 22. *A letter to his grace the D—— of N——e, on the duty he owes himself, his king, his country, and his God, at this important moment.* 8vo. Pr. 1s. Morgan.

This is a warm remonstrance, exhorting a late m——r, on the eve of being replaced, to employ the remaining part of his life in giving up the enemies of their country to public justice, in opposing the iniquitous schemes of a desperate colleague, in renouncing German politics, in retrieving the wealth and importance, and re-establishing the constitution of England.

The language is incorrect, and the style rather mean than elegant; yet the piece contains some striking pictures, and a great many melancholy truths, which every friend to his country will do well to consider.

- ✓ Art. 23. *Northern revolutions: or, the principal causes of the declension and dissolution of several once flourishing Gothic constitutions in Europe. In a series of letters from the ghost of Trenchard. By C. Lucas, M. D. and apothecary.* 8vo. Pr. 2s. Cooper.

This performance is intended as a satire upon the g——n——t, chiefly with regard to the management of I———d, which is shadowed under the name of Nordweg. The letters may be said, with some propriety, to be written by a ghost, as the style and matter is such as we could hardly expect from an inhabitant of this world; unless we should stretch a point in compassion, and say, that the ghost talks like an apothecary. The ghost seems to have written with the terrors of the pillory or exile; for his performance consists of dark allusions, broken hints, and equivocal insinuations. It resembles one of those indistinct and inconsistent visions, produced from the fumes of indigestion, in which a man struggles through a sea of half-formed and monstrous ideas, finding himself transported, he knows not how, from England to Norway, from Norway to Lapland, and from thence into the bog of Allen, where we will leave this adept in politics, like a retort in *Balneo Mariæ*, to distil his patriotical lucubrations, of which we may say with Horace,

———*isti tabulæ fore———*  
*Perfimiles, cujus, velut ægri somnia, vanæ*  
*Fingentur species: ut nec pes, nec caput uni*  
*Reddatur formæ.*

- ✓ Art. 24. *The snake in the grass.*

Here the author of the above-mentioned pamphlet, has imitated his great predecessor *Daniel Defoe*, in writing an answer to his own productions:

ductions: but, alas! he inherits a small portion of *Elijah's mantle*.—*Sequiturque patrem laud passibus æquis*. The pretended snake is a very harmless reptile, and may hiss till his jaws ache without molestation.

Art. 25. *Anti-Lucretius of God and nature, a poem, written in Latin by the cardinal De Polignac: rendered into English by the translator of Paradise Lost.* 4to. Pr. 1s. 6d. Manby.

We recommend this as an excellent specimen of a very elegant poem, and as the production of a gentleman who deserves a public reward from his country, for having extended and immortalised the fame of the great English poet Milton, in his admirable translation of *Paradise Lost*. He seems to have caught the spirit of his great original. Nothing can be more poetically enchanting than the following passage:

‘ Were mine the gift, as o’er the sacred clime  
 ‘ Thy steps I guide, to pour Castalian streams  
 ‘ Thro’ the parch’d plain, the shaggy wild convert  
 ‘ To bloomy verdure, and entice at once  
 ‘ All Aganippe’s springs! But not from me  
 ‘ Flows the rich eloquence that grac’d your bard,  
 ‘ The sweet, harmonious melody of song.  
 ‘ He the fam’d Græcian dreams with ease transfus’d  
 ‘ Thro’ the free channel of his native tongue;  
 ‘ While we, in language not our own, endite  
 ‘ This hallow’d verse. Fair Venus, young delight  
 ‘ And all the graces charms, his numbers breathe:  
 ‘ Ours, the strict tenets of severest truth;  
 ‘ Harsh notes, unwelcome to the sensual ear.  
 ‘ Amply to him her gaudiest treasure pours  
 ‘ Luxuriant nature, flow’rs of various hue;  
 ‘ The vernal airs breathe softer to his lyre;  
 ‘ The skies around him milder beams diffuse:  
 ‘ Look on the soil, the soil cool shades supplies;  
 ‘ Down the green summits gurgling rivulets glide,  
 ‘ And milky streams refresh the fertile plain.  
 ‘ Sweet chaunt the cheerful songsters of the air:  
 ‘ In flow’ry pastures numerous flocks and herds  
 ‘ Delighted roam: the flocks, the shepherds dance.  
 ‘ The Cyprian queen presides, and spreads her smiles  
 ‘ O’er earth, o’er ocean, and the ambient sky.’

Art. 26. *Four hundred and forty six verses, containing harsh truths, in which are introduced, a translation of the High-dutch: and a fable.* 4to. Pr. 6d. Scott.

The verses here seem to be more harsh than the truths, which, heaven knows, are hackneyed and simple enough. Not but that there may be some poignant satire conveyed in those long —s, which stand like *Chevaux de Frise* at the end of the lines, to prick the skins of the hostile critic. Nothing surely can be more severe than the following couplets:

For



' For whom our ————,  
 ' Employs his military skill,  
 ' And (as ———— insist on't)  
 ' To keep encroaching Frenchmen distant.  
 To this we will add, by way of apostrophe to the poet,  
 ' Thy father's grave, hast thou not p—st on't?'

✓ Art. 27. *A letter to the right honourable the lord B——y. Being an inquiry into the merit of his defence of Minorca. 8vo. Pr. 1s. May.*

This is a very shrewd address, which seems to demonstrate, that the loss of Minorca was not altogether owing to the misconduct or cowardice of a late unfortunate admiral; and that popular applause is frequently as capricious as popular resentment. The author of the pamphlet before us, goes near to prove by historical deduction, that general B——y is the first officer who ever laid it down as a maxim, that it is the duty of a governor to stay in his own house during the whole siege of the fortress he commands. He exposes the absurdity, the disgrace, and the pernicious consequences of such conduct. He ridicules his lordship for having owned, that he did not keep a journal of the siege. He blames him for having omitted to pull down the houses that stood near to the castle of St. Philips. He observes, that this is a precaution taken in every siege, but doubly necessary here, because the soil being rocky, would not admit of sinking trenches, and the enemy would have no other cover but the houses, by means of which they made their approaches. All their batteries that did real execution were planted among or behind these houses. He expostulates with him for having neglected to reinforce his garrison with four or five hundred Minorquins, who might have eased the foldiers of the labour of pioneers; with having forgot to destroy the road from Fornelles; with having left the cattle of the place to fall into the hands of the enemy, while the garrison were destitute of fresh provision; with having left the cellars of the town filled with wine, and the mills standing for the use of the French: with having neglected to prepare the ramparts, and other works, for service, and even the men for doing duty upon them: for, it seems, the officers knew not where to place their centinels, where to make their blinds and how to direct the defence; and for the first ten days all was confusion. He asks how the queen's redoubt happened to be lost? why an effort was not made to drive out the enemy after they had taken possession? why they were suffered to bury their dead? why one whole regiment stood still ready drawn up for the two most important hours of attack, wanting orders and an officer to command them, when colonel Jefferies was taken? but, he dwells upon the surrendry as the capital blunder. He says the place was given up before a breach was made, or a single cannon erected to batter in breach: that the principal difficulty of a siege is the storming of the counterscarp; that until this be taken there is no approaching the ditch, or battering in breach: that Minorca was one of the best mined citadels in Europe, and that no use was made of the souterrains. He observes, that during a two months siege, the whole number of slain did not amount to one hundred. "We blush (says he) for our countrymen, who thought no commendations great enough for the bravery of a  
 : governor,

‘governor, at a time when the bills of mortality did not rise higher  
 ‘in St. Philip’s, than in many of our larger country-towns that were  
 ‘celebrating his valour.’ — ‘You, my lord, continues he, was un-  
 ‘hurt, either by excessive number of the living or of the dead; but  
 ‘marched out almost compleat battalions through the gates, with-  
 ‘out a breach, and with full bellies.—King William shot the go-  
 ‘vernor of Dixmude for surrendring five battalions, without a  
 ‘breach or lodgment made in the counterescarp: the governor of Old  
 ‘Brisac, was beheaded in the year 1703 for the same reason.—Not  
 ‘that I would suppose any thing in your lordship’s behaviour, which  
 ‘was criminal or punishable; but, all that is at present inquired is,  
 ‘what there was in it rewardable?’

Art. 28. *The Voice of Britain: A Poem on the late Glorious Dawn of  
 Ancient Patriotism, and the later inglorious Frustration by the Dismissal  
 of the Right Honourable William Pitt, Esq;* Pr. 1 s. 4to. J. Morgan.

If this be in reality the voice of Britain, which may well be doubted,  
 it is strangely altered in the tone, being absolutely one of the worst  
 voices we ever heard, as the reader will easily perceive by the few harsh  
 notes of it which we shall here subjoin. British degeneracy is thus  
 most unpoetically described:

With noxious breath the baneful gust of ease

Marr’d ev’ry scene, and barter’d all your peace.

For Peace we should read Pease, which is necessary for the rhyme, and  
 leaves the sense equally good. Nor is the matter much mended, when

————— Justice broke

‘Th’ oppressive Shackles, and Britannia’s yoke.

‘Degen’rate tools no longer steer the helm,

‘Nor deal their perverse bounties round the realm,

‘Sunk to their native littleness — worse

‘Could hellish fiends dire vengeance ne’er accrue.

‘Britons, like Britons, hail’d the happy day,

‘And thought themselves superior to decay,

‘Firmly confiding on the royal word,

‘That truth should search, and justice then reward.’

Our author is very severe in some parts of this poem; but, as Ham-  
 let says, the verse halts for it, and when a rhymers can rhyme no  
 better than *word* and *ward*, he had better leave it off, and apply  
 himself to some other profession.

✓ Art. 29. *An Epistle from Schah Hussein, the dethroned Sophi of Persia,  
 in the Shades; to Na-Zr O’Din, Emperor of Indostan, at his palace in the  
 neighbourhood of Dellhi. Translated from the Persic by W. P. Esq;*  
*folio, Pr. 6 d. G. Kearsly.*

This is a political pamphlet, and contains only a dull repetition  
 of the same complaints that have been echoed from paper to paper  
 for some years past. Schah Hussein is represented as sacrificing every  
 thing to his love for Han-ering. ‘This despicable spot (says he)  
 ‘compared with the Persic empire, engrossed my heart, I was perpe-  
 ‘tually anxious for its safety. Of this my pretended friends as well  
 ‘as mine open enemies made their advantage. I bore affronts and  
 ‘violations from Turks and Russians, I surrendered some of the most  
 ‘valuable acquisitions of my arms, purely for the sake of Han-ering:  
 ‘I tell thee again, to shelter it, I suffered repeated indignities; the  
 ‘splendor



'splendor of my crown, the interest, the treasures of Persia, were  
'bartered for its preservation. Happy had it been for me and the  
'whole empire, if I had never had any connexion therewith.' The  
reader by this little extract may perceive the design of this whole per-  
formance; concerning which, we shall only observe, that the mask of  
a Persian, which the author has thought fit to put on, may properly be  
said to drop off in the following sentence. 'I entreated Allah to di-  
'vert the gathering tempest. That divine sentence came into my  
'mind, put away the wicked from before the King, that his throne  
'may be established in righteousness. We should be glad to know  
how Schah Hussein, the Sophi of Persia, came to be so well ac-  
quainted with scripture.

Art. 30. *An Allusion to the tenth Ode of the second Book of Horace; on a  
report of the Right Honourable H—F—, Esq; quitting all Public  
Employments, and, in a religious Fit, retiring to H—d H—e: In  
the ever memorable year 1757. Pr. 6 d. J. Scott.*

This little piece has already, if we may credit the title-page, run  
through three editions. A rapid progress, which we can only attri-  
bute to the large quantity of personal satire and abuse contained in it,  
together with a little popular declamation on the times, such as the  
following:

- 'Lord, what a memorable year
- 'Is this same year of fifty-seven;
- 'The most, I'll make it soon appear,
- 'Since Walpole mis'd of reaching heav'n.
- '*Imprimis*,—fair Minorca's gone!
- 'An admiral a martyr lies!
- 'A Nabob beats you with one gun;
- 'And Britain's Poor with hunger dies.'

In this consists all the merit, if it be any, of this ode, which like other  
flowers of this kind, may be admired for a few days, but will soon  
wither, and with its author, be buried in oblivion.

✓ Art. 31. *Observations on the internal use of the Solanum or Nightshade.  
By Thomas Gataker, surgeon to Westminster-hospital. The second Edition,  
8vo. Pr. 6 d. Doddsley.*

This small pamphlet, in which there is a great appearance of can-  
dour and good sense, is professedly published to recommend the inter-  
nal use of a plant which has been generally deemed poisonous. Mr.  
Gataker took the hint from a memoir in the *Bibliothèque des Beaux Arts  
& des Sciences*, containing an account of a cancerous disorder cured by  
an infusion of deadly nightshade. He forthwith procured some of the  
dried plant, and began to try its effects, before he discovered it was  
not the deadly but the garden nightshade. Nevertheless, as this last  
seemed to operate very effectually, he pursued his experiments with  
great success in two cancerous disorders, foul ulcers, obstinate pains in  
particular parts of the body, and scorbutic eruptions. He found,  
from repeated trials, that one grain weight of the leaf infused in about  
an ounce of boiling water, afterwards strained, and taken at bed-  
time, would sometimes have a very sensible effect: but that two or  
three times the quantity seldom failed, either to vomit, sweat, or  
purge

purge the patient moderately, or to increase the quantity of urine. It sometimes occasioned a giddiness, especially when it made the patient sick; but neither the giddiness nor sickness were constant symptoms; and when they happened, they generally abated, or entirely ceased, after the first or second dose. It generally produced a warmth over the body, which was succeeded by a plentiful sweat, and a purging the next day: if a sweat did not break out, an extraordinary discharge of urine was the consequence, and frequently followed likewise by a purging; one or more of the natural evacuations were almost always increased. These observations are confirmed by a detail of cases that happened in the Westminster hospital, by which it appears that the plant is a very powerful diaphoretic and diuretic, and therefore may become a valuable acquisition to the materia medica. Mr. Gataker has found, by experience, that the garden and deadly nightshade produce nearly the same effects; and that there is very little difference between the green plant and that which is dried. As the medicine is now introduced into our hospitals, the virtues of it will soon be ascertained; mean while, we recommend this pamphlet as a guide to those who are desirous of trying its effects in the course of their private practice.

- ✓ Art. 32. *An account of the facts which appeared on the late inquiry into the loss of Minorca from authentic papers, 8vo. Pr. 2 s. 6 d. By the Monitor.*

The task of a reviewer is like that of Sisyphus in hell. No sooner has he rolled up one heavy performance to the public view, than another tumbling down, requires an incessant repetition of his labour. The political sage, who declares admonition from the Black swan, and, in spite of his gagging, would fain be thought the *rara avis*—*Nigro simillima Cygno*, has here compiled a lumpish, tedious, inanimated pamphlet, composed of rags and remnants of intelligence, to prove, that the loss of Minorca was owing to the folly and misconduct of a motley M——, who delayed the necessary succours and armament, though they had received early advices, from which they might have deduced a certainty of the destination of the French equipment. Who doubts of this eternal truth?—The Monitor might as well have quoted the Old and New Testament, to prove that the Egyptians were drowned in the Red-sea; and that the Jews crucified the Saviour of the world. This is like the doctor's casting a man's water after his death; that he might know what distemper he died of.—The remarks interspersed through this performance are so trite and languid, that they seem intended as opiates to the wakeful reader.—Why had not the author borrowed a few faggots of political fuel from his clamorous brother Dr. S——, which, like half-dried hemlock, fumes, and frets, and spits, and stinks, and crackles in the flame? Then we should have had some flowers of Billingsgate for our money; and the strain, though perhaps as dissonant as the filing of a saw, would at least have stimulated our attention, and preserved us from a dangerous lethargy of thoughts and reflection.

- ✓ Art. 33. *A Letter from the late Earl of H—— in the Elysian Shades, to his G—— the D—— of D——, with a Postscript to the Earl of H——ld——e, folio, 6 d. Cooke.*

The good earl of Harrington, who was never suspected for a wag, while he sojourned in this world, is (it seems) become very arch and ironical



ironical since he resided in the regions below. We cannot help thinking, however, that he has mistaken the object of his wit and satire, in levelling it against the duke of D——t, who has always borne the character of a good-natured, generous, inoffensive nobleman. In the postscript, which is a sly, left-handed blow, aimed at the earl of H——ld——sse, he has humourously enough introduced the late Lord B——g——ke swearing by the gospel.

Art. 34. *The Mother-in-Law or the Innocent Sufferer, with the various and entertaining adventures of Mr. Harvey Falconer, 2 vols. 12ves. Pr. 6 s. Noble.*

Another leaden Minerva sprung from the brain of the embrowzed Jupiter, to which we owe *True Merit, True Happiness*, and many other pieces equally offensive to common sense.

Art. 35. *The memoirs of Harriot and Charlotte Meanwell. Scott.*

These memoirs, it seems, have been published by subscription to relieve the distresses of the two ladies mentioned in the title page, who tell us they were ruined by the bankruptcy of a near relation. The circumstance certainly deserves pity; and we could wish the book merited proportionable encouragement; it may afford some entertainment, and will to the humane heart afford an opportunity of doing some good.

Art. 36. *The Fair Citizen: or the real adventures of Miss Charlotte Bellmour, 12mo. Pr. 2 s. Lownds.*

A puny, miserable reptile has here crawl'd into existence, happily formed to elude all attack by its utter insignificance: it is indeed no small mortification to our pride, that we have been obliged to bestow even so much notice upon it, as this.

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*Though there is nothing very substantial in the following letter, which was sent to our publisher, we shall insert it as a proof of our desire to oblige our correspondents, and seize every opportunity of doing justice to merit.*

S I R,

**A**S a late pamphlet entitled, *observations on the internal use of the solanum, or nightshade*, has already so far excited the curiosity of the public, as to require a second impression in a few days; I hope the following remarks, which occurred to me on the perusal of it, will not be thought impertinent, or in any respect derogating from the merit of the author, who deserves the highest acknowledgments from the public, for his early and candid, though by some enviously thought crude, remarks on a plant, whose nature and virtues, if rightly investigated and known, will in all probability conquer a most inveterate disease, which has hitherto remained one of the opprobria medicorum, and furnish the judicious practitioner with a very valuable acquisition.

The author's uncommon humanity and disinterestedness, in an age so remarkably corrupt and selfish, in which quackery and lucre are but too much practised, even by those whose educations and fortunes ought to have exempted them from the infection, renders him still more worthy of the public thanks.

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I am

I am extremely sorry he has been so little solicitous to embellish his account with histories of particular cases, presuming they are the most useful charts to steer by; and that his too modest deference to the experience of others has deprived us of the most useful part of his discoveries.

The inconveniencies attending the promiscuous and ignorant use of the *solanum* have been but too much the fate of medicine; but as the universally-known lethiferous quality of this plant will deter the generality of practitioners from using it, so will the knowledge of the learned direct it to be taken in the properest dose and form; therefore I think it less likely to be abused than most others.

The mistake of the *solanum hortense* for the *lethale*, has unhappily deprived us of the certain effects the *lethale* would have had in the first case; and I could most sincerely have wished the author had consulted some learned and ingenious botanist in so nice an inquiry, to have selected the particular genus of the plant, as the three species he mentions differ greatly in their appearances, if not in their effects.

The effects of the *solanum* seem to agree with those of most poisons, either vegetable or mineral; yet I doubt not but in time, from the judicious, great cures may be performed by it.

I must beg leave to mention what I have before hinted, that I cou'd have wish'd the doses, and times of taking them, had been accurately ascertain'd in the first cancerous case, p. 10; for the success in which, and the preceding ones, I most sincerely congratulate him, tho' I should be glad to know why the *hortense* in the second case, p. 12, was used instead of the *lethale*, and continued in several of the following.

In the third patient's case, p. 18, &c. I can't help blaming the author's modesty in insinuating that rest, &c. might have succeeded equally well with the *solanum*, tho' given to the quantity of ten grains for a dose, as he seems rather too much to depreciate its extraordinary merit.

Not being intimately known to the author, I hope he will excuse publishing my remarks in this manner, at the same time begging him to reconsider not only whether the several genera of the night-shade differ not from each other in their effects, and if so, I presume that an accurate description of them in the next edition (which the author has in part promised) will be thought highly proper; as also whether there is not an essential difference between all plants dried and green, as they generally lose two thirds of their specific gravity, (which is nothing more than pure element :) I should therefore consequently conclude, that one grain dried is equal in efficacy to three grains of the green.

Q. Whether a certain apothecary near the Mansion-house, who was applied to with success, in a late royal case, did not use it topically?

PHILO-MEDICUS.

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A letter from the author of *thoughts on the war* came to hand. The gentleman is desired to recollect that the notes and observations which he mentions are in his own possession.

